

The AMERICAN LEGION *Weekly*



103

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LAST CALL!

The fourth annual convention of the American Legion at New Orleans is but a short time off. The material shown below is necessary for your own individual use as well as that of your Post to insure proper equipment. Be sure that your Post will be represented with official colors in the big parade and by all means see to it that you have your official CEREMONIAL BADGE.

Go over the "line up" carefully and mail your order at once to insure pre-convention delivery.

MEMBERSHIP BUTTONS

The right to wear the Legion Emblem is a rare privilege—a privilege that only one person out of every 25 people has.

GET A BUTTON FOR EVERY COAT and take every advantage of that privilege which is yours.

There are two types of Legion membership buttons—silver center for those wounded in action and bronze center for all others. They are also available in two sizes, midget and regulation. The regulation button is one-half inch in diameter while the midget is approximately one-half the size of the regulation.

Each Post should carry a supply of membership buttons at all times. They are in constant demand and only a very small amount of money is involved.

Unless otherwise instructed by your Department Headquarters forward all orders to the Emblem Division which will be filled immediately at the following prices.

	Regulation	Midget
Gold Plate . . .	\$0.25	\$0.25
10K. Solid Gold	\$2.63	\$1.58
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Note: Above prices include War Tax

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A beautiful silver buckle with a genuine leather hand sewed double thickness belt. The Legion Emblem in full colors is mounted on each buckle.

Price complete, packed in an attractive gift box:

Silver plated - - - \$2.75
Sterling silver - - - 4.50

Plus 5% Tax

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Each decoration is an exact reproduction of the Legion Emblem in full colors. Size 2½ inches in diameter.

A neat inconspicuous radiator emblem that will tone up the Flivver as well as the snappiest Pierce-Arrow that ever turned a wheel.

Equipped with a bolt and lock nut for fastening through the honeycomb of the radiator at any desired spot. Especially well made to withstand constant vibration. PRICE \$1.00 each.

POST COMMANDER



It's a Fact

that only Delegates and Alternates will be provided with Convention badges at New Orleans. The Legion Ceremonial badge is the official convention badge for the rest of us. It is made in two types—one for Post and Department officers and one for members. Don't wait until you get to New Orleans; order yours at once!



Every Man

going to New Orleans should pin on his Ceremonial badge the minute he leaves home and not take it off till he gets back. It's going to be your "Passport" while in New Orleans.

"Nuff said!"

PRICE \$1.00 EACH FOR EITHER TYPE
In Lots of 50 5% Discount
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Legion Athletic Emblems!



Just the thing for Base Ball, Track and other athletic uniforms! Size 4 inches in diameter and made in full Legion colors, blue and gold.

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SILK EMBROIDERED - - - 1.00

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National Headquarters will again this year give a silver service bar to each Post and Department which is represented in the big parade at New Orleans with a stand of Official Legion colors.

If your Post missed out on this decoration last year get a fresh start at New Orleans. No orders accepted for pre-convention delivery after Sept. 31.

Each Post banner is lettered with the name, number and location of your Post. Made of double thickness material so that the wording reads correctly on both sides. Trimmed and mounted according to Official regulations. Size 4½ x 5½ feet.

Each U. S. Flag is of single thickness material with sewed stripes, same size, and trimmed and mounted in the same manner.

PRICES

Wool U. S. Flag \$25.00
Delivered
Wool Post Banner \$40.00
Delivered
Silk U. S. Flag \$45.00
Delivered
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Delivered

Note: Above prices include rain cover and leather carrying belt
Remittance in full must accompany all orders. No charge or C. O. D. orders accepted.

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Safeguard your membership card with one of the leather cases which have been designed especially for that purpose.

Double thickness, genuine leather, size 4½ x 3 inches when folded. One leather and one transparent celluloid pocket with official emblem and name "The American Legion" stamped in gold.

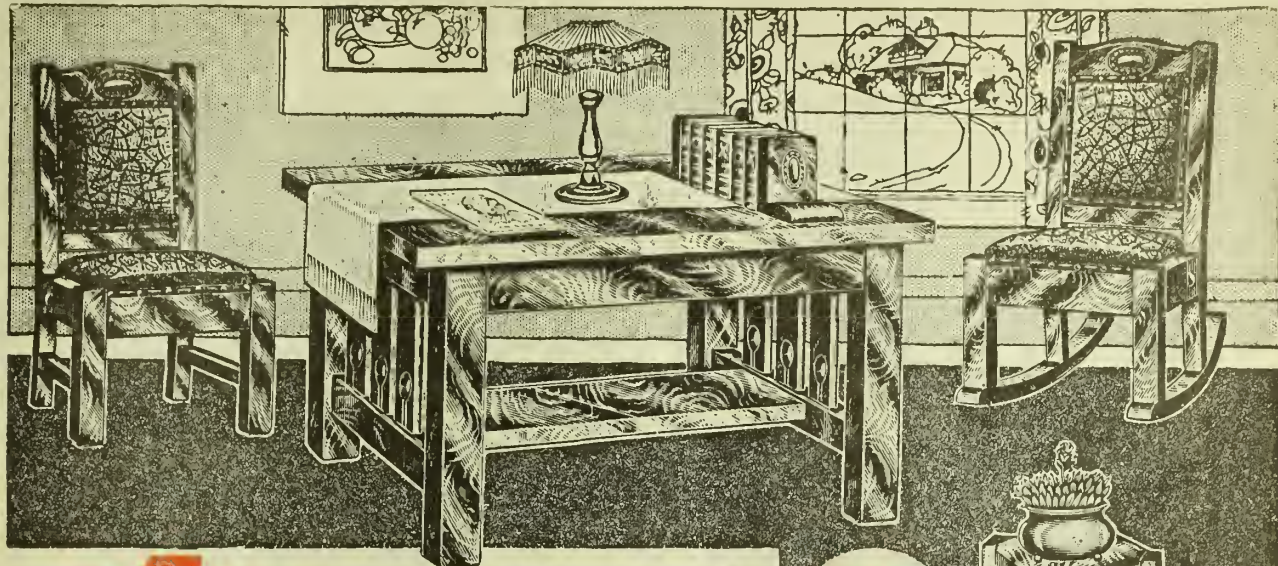
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EMBLEM DIVISION

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana

WRITE FOR COMPLETE CATALOG

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\$1 Brings Hartman's Richly Upholstered 7 Piece Suite

Quarter-Sawed and Solid Oak

Send only \$1 for this complete suite of library, parlor, or living room furniture—seven splendid, massive pieces. Use it 30 days, on free trial, then if you don't say that it is even more than you expected, ship it back and we return your \$1 and pay transportation charges both ways.

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Only by seeing this splendid quarter-sawed and solid oak suite can you realize how it will add to the appearance of your home. Only by examining it can you appreciate what a record-breaking bargain it is at our **smashed price**. Furniture like this—elegant, comfortable, massive—can be bought nowhere else at anywhere near the price, nor on such liberal terms.

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Table and chairs stand on noiseless glides. Backs and seats upholstered in durable imitation Spanish brown leather. Comfortable spring seats. TABOURETTE, 16½ inches high with 10-inch top, is solid oak. BOOK BLOCKS, heavy enough to support a liberal number of volumes. Shipped (fully boxed, "knocked down" to lessen freight charges) from factory in Central Indiana, Western New York State or Chicago warehouse. Send the coupon.

Order by No. 112DDMA7. Price, \$37.95. Send \$1 now. Pay balance \$3.00 per month.

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—Mail Coupon Now!

HARTMAN Furniture & Carpet Co.
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Enclosed find \$1. Send the 7-Piece Living Room Suite No. 112DDMA7 as described. I am to have 30 days' free trial. If not satisfied, will ship it back and you will refund my \$1 and pay freight both ways. If I keep it, I will pay \$3.00 per month until the full price, \$37.95, is paid. Title remains with you until final payment is made.

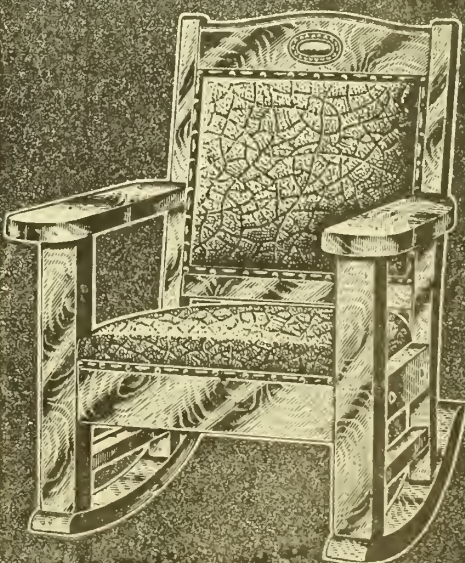
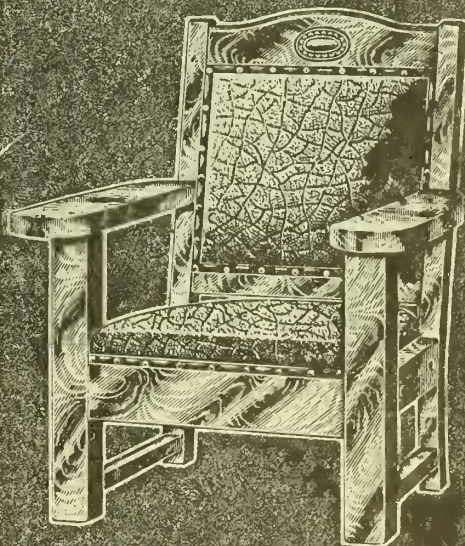
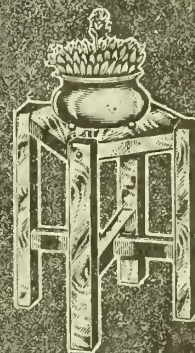
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A Chip Off the Old Block

"**M**Y BOY, I have had my clothes *made-to-measure* by the Kahn Tailors for thirty years. You have done well in following my example. These fellows are the finest stylists and the most conscientious workmen I have ever found. They use only the purest woolens and the best of everything goes into their clothes—and the clothes **FIT** and have **INDIVIDUALITY**—they are actually **TAILORED-TO-YOUR-MEASURE**. To top it all the prices are no higher than for the best ready-mades."

Dealers Everywhere

KAHN - TAILORING - CO.
OF INDIANAPOLIS

MADE TO MEASURE CLOTHES

Who Got the Money?

II. THE AIRPLANE PRODUCTION MESS

By Marquis James

In the spring of 1917 America set out to "win the war in the air." At the time of the Armistice not a single American-made fighting plane had reached the front. Yet a billion dollars' worth of government funds had gone into our aviation program. What became of it?

On the 22d of August, 1918, in Clermont, France, about sixteen men (American aviators) were lined up that had been ordered to the front. I think there were about four or six DH-4 machines, and the rest were French machines. . . . They shook hands with everybody and said, "Well, this is not au revoir; this is good-by."

Capt. Williams (in charge of the aviation group) and I were standing opposite, and I asked him why all this gloom. . . .

"Well," he said, "those American machines have no protection. As soon as a bullet hits that gasoline tank it is certain it will take fire immediately, and the men—the pilot and observer—have no chance to get away."

He said the boys called those "flaming coffins." He said they would not come back; that when one of the machines was struck it was the finish. The French machines were old and not up to date. They were not as fast as the German machines and, therefore, they did not figure they had much chance in these machines, either.

I saw Capt. Williams about a month afterwards and asked him particularly if those fellows came back. He said he had never heard of any of them. He said they had fallen inside the German lines and had been captured or killed.—*Testimony of Capt. Thomas A. Sweeney, United States Engineers, before Graham Committee of the House of Representatives.*

WHEN the United States entered the war our gratified Allies, after a careful survey of the situation, suggested that America's most telling contribution to the war could be made in the air. It was pointed out that to a far greater extent than in any other mode of warfare, air fighting on a decisive scale is dependent on the support of a tremendous industrial organization for the production of planes and equipment. Three years of war had taxed European industry to the breaking point. If Allied air power was to grow, in fact if it was to hold its own, America was represented as the only hope.

America was coming into the war destitute of armies, but with some of the most highly-specialized industrial organizations in the world. On this the Allies pinned their hope.

The logic of the situation was incapable. The Allied suggestion was accepted and it was sententiously announced at Washington that America intended to "win the war in the air." Could we do it? Ask us something hard. Didn't America *invent* the airplane. This was the brand of argument used to floor those who were so disloyal as to doubt. China, of course, invented gunpowder, but—

This appears to have been just one of the thoughts that came out second

out 30,000 aero motors in a year. One hundred and ten automobile manufacturers wired President Wilson their plants were "at the disposal of the Government." It was asserted that industry had "answered the call with unhoped for results," that it was "definitely known" that 3,500 planes a month could be produced. Low costs were stressed. In brief all we had to do was rub the lamp of "business efficiency" and win the war.

It was announced that the United States would put an armada of 25,000 planes in the air. Brigadier General William Mitchell of the Air Service has since disclosed that War Department plans called for 20,000 planes on the front and in reserve by January, 1918. There were to be bombing and fighting planes in numbers unheard of. The Germans were to be driven from the sky. The public was repeatedly told it was only a question of money. The public had faith. The Treasury showed the people's money down on these industrial captains as if it were manna. They spent it as if it were water. They spent \$1,051,511,988.

What did this sum contribute toward the winning of the war? Here is the record attested by General Pershing. *Not one battle plane, not one bombing plane, not one pursuit plane, not one American-made fighting plane of any character ever reached the front.*

From the appalling disgrace which cloaks our Air Service record there must be exempted entirely the personnel of the fighting force. No breath of scandal touches our fliers. They went out and flew those "flaming coffins," those cast-off wrecks we begged and borrowed from our exhausted Allies, and performed feats of heroism that will live as long as this nation does. They soared to their deaths like men, peerless young martyrs to the graft, the waste and the blundering that went on under the eyes of the industrial captains at home. Our losses among aviators were frightful. They were pro-

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Says:

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conscience.

best in the head-on collision with the spirit of magnificent cocksureness in which America started to "win the war in the air." Came the first syllables of that magical cry, "mobilization of industry." Industry said it was ready. The head of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce declared the country's automobile plants could turn

portionately three times as great as the losses among Allied fliers. The reason is the death traps our men were forced to fly.

"Many a gallant life was lost to American aviation," Eddie Rickenbacker told a Senate investigating committee, "the responsibility for which must lie heavy on some guilty conscience."

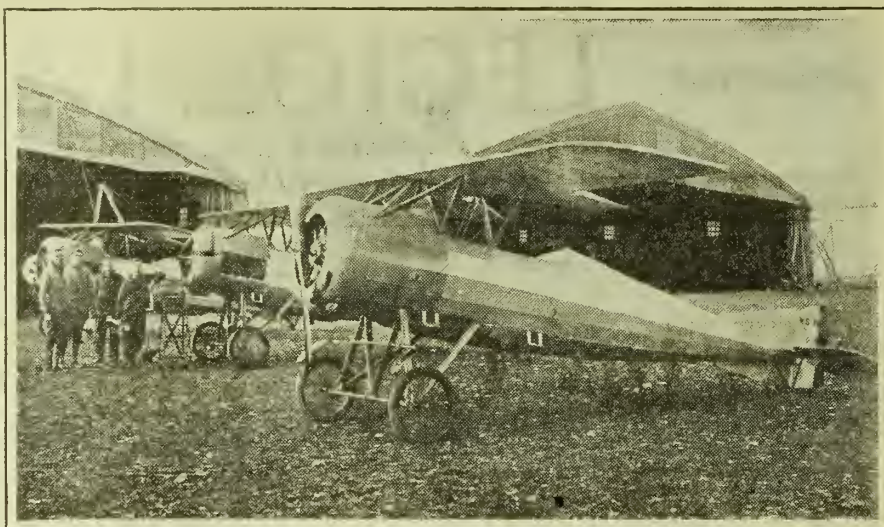
Let us take a quick glance at the composition of the "business administration" of our air effort. A roster of the executive heads of the production organization reads like a selection from Dun's or Bradstreet's. Away down the line, in comparatively subordinate positions, we find conspicuous figures in the realm of industry. But at the top, at the very pinnacle of the pyramid, controlling it all, responsible for it all, whom do we find? The greatest industrial giant of them all? Scarcely. We find the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, Brigadier General George O. Squier, concerning whom Charles E. Hughes, in his investigation made during the war at the personal request of President Wilson, reports:

"It is quite clear that the undertaking was beyond the competency of the Chief Signal Officer, who had neither training nor experience for such a large industrial enterprise, and those who were brought to the task in this department failed to produce an organization which was adapted to meet the exigency."

Under General Squier there was created in May, 1917, the Aircraft Production Board, headed by Howard E. Coffin, automobile manufacturer of Detroit, and Edward A. Deeds, capitalist and cash register magnate of Dayton, Ohio. Deeds was commissioned a colonel and presently took charge of production, which responsibility he held under various titles until relieved in February, 1918, by William C. Potter of the Guggenheim copper interests. Colonel Robert L. Montgomery, a stockbroker, handled matters of finance and supply, and Lieut. Col. George W. Mixter, agricultural implement manufacturer of Moline, Illinois, was in charge of the inspection department. In May, 1918, John D. Ryan, financier and copper king, succeeded Potter.

As a climax to what Mr. Hughes calls "a series of misleading public statements made with official authority," it was announced in the name of the Secretary of War that up to the Armistice this organization produced 11,754 planes. A brief analysis of the Secretary's figures will shed some pointed sidelights on production results.

In June, 1917, we started to produce 25,000 planes. Six hundred million dollars was appropriated for that



10317 AVIATION: Planes at an American Field.----France

The caption reproduced with this picture is the one sent out by the Committee on Public Information when the photograph was released on June 16, 1918. The machines shown are penguins, low-powered monoplanes with short wings. Unable to fly, they were used only for ground training

purpose. Secretary Baker's figures admit that not 25,000 planes, but 11,754 were produced, and at an expense of not \$600,000,000 but nearly twice that. This is admission of failure to no inconsiderable degree, but it represents the rosier colors in which the situation could be painted. We did not produce 11,754 planes that were fit to fly or that would fly; we produced nothing like that number—and no fighting plane reached the front. The Secretary's figures are found to include:

1,660 Standard J-1 planes delivered at a cost of \$17,514,868 only to be condemned as dangerous because of unsuitability of motor.

27 Bristol Fighters delivered on an order for 2,000 on which work was well advanced when the plane was condemned and work stopped; cost, estimated by Mr. Hughes, \$24,000,000.

4,000 "flaming coffins" or De Havilland 4s costing \$50,000,000. Production of this plane was continued in the face of repeated warnings that it was a death trap, and in the face of a cablegram from General Pershing enumerating fifty specific defects.

Approximately 5,500 training planes of no service value, with which are grouped hundreds of experimental machines and 300 penguins which cannot fly.

Mr. Ryan has

since admitted there was not a fighting plane in the lot.

When the Armistice came we had 2,000,000 men under arms in France and 798 American flying machines there, 196 of which were on the front. Our air effort which was to "win the war" by placing 20,000 planes on the front and in reserve by January, 1918, had tapered down to this—a mere showing of 721 planes on the front of which more than five hundred had been furnished by our Allies. Our 196 planes on the front were all "flaming coffins" or DH-4s and were observation, not fighting, ships.

The truth of the aircraft failure which entailed the waste of millions in money and many gallant lives was concealed during the war by a campaign of deception carried out by the government propaganda agency, the Committee on Public Information. After a series of misleading statements on the progress of production there appeared in the newspapers of February 21, 1918, the following:

The first American-built battle planes are today en route to the front in France. This first shipment though in itself not large marks the final overcoming of many difficulties in building up this new and intricate industry.

The foregoing was declared to have been inspired by Colonel Deeds. The truth is the first airplane shipped to the A. E. F. left the United States on March 22, 1918, one month and two days after Colonel Deeds is declared on sworn testimony to have told two Committee on Public Information representatives that planes already were on the water.

It is not difficult to understand the failure of an excellent technician like General Squier who, through no fault of his own, was so shockingly misplaced in a position which required executive genius of the highest order. But what of the industrial chieftains who were



(c) Harris and Ewing

General George O. Squier, Chief Signal Officer, U.S.A., an excellent technician badly misplaced as head of a vast industrial enterprise—the aviation program



2339. THE TERROR OF THE AIR....This Nieuport Monoplane, the fastest machine in the world and used extensively by the French in this war, has been loaned to our forces "Over There" to teach our aviators now in France how to chase and bag retreating German fliers.

This "terror of the air" (the Committee on Public Information caption when the photo was released on February 14, 1918) was an old and slow monoplane which the French had not been using for about two years. It was at least forty miles an hour slower than the Spad or Nieuport biplanes

brought in for the express purpose of supplying this deficiency? Why did they "fail to produce"? Was it because some of them served their country with a divided allegiance? Was it because some of them while officers of the Army and servants of the Government in its hours of greatest need found time to advise, counsel and traffic in official secrets with firms in which they had financial interest which were taking exorbitant profits from the Government? Was it because such officers and servants momentarily may have been more interested in piling up profits—in which they would share—for these favored firms than in carrying out their announced determination to "win the war in the air"?

The Government has been "boldly and openly robbed" on air contracts, declares H. L. Scaife, a special agent of the Department of Justice, in an official report of March 18, 1922, to his chief, Assistant Attorney General Guy D. Goff, head of the War Frauds Section of the Department of Justice. "Reports show failure of aircraft production, wholesale graft and malversation, reprehensible official conduct and squandering of enormous sums," continues Investigator Scaife, summarizing the findings of an investigation which lasted six months. Mr. Scaife says the Government's manner of doing business left the doors "wide open to every variety of graft and fraud." Of certain manufacturers who took millions in profits whether they delivered planes or not Mr. Scaife observes that "had the war been planned and carried on for their special benefit their personal gain could hardly have been greater." He reports that "widespread propaganda in defense of the Air Service has been definitely traced" to interested persons. The public till having been emptied, Mr. Scaife calls his superior's attention to "political influence and bold propaganda of the most insidious character to prevent an

investigation which would lay bare their misdeeds and dishonesty."

Congressman Woodruff of Michigan on April 11th declared on the floor of the House that "hundreds of men are guilty of criminal conspiracy" in the handling of our air program and charged that "no determined effort looking either to the recovery of money due the Government or the criminal prosecution of offenders" had been made. As early as August, 1918, the activities of a group of aircraft manufacturers was condemned by a Senate subcommittee headed by Senator Thomas as "vicious and designed to make large profits by taking advantage of the necessities of the Government."

In his report to the President Mr. Hughes recommended that "the officers found to have had transactions on behalf of the Government with corporations in the pecuniary profits of which they had an interest should be prosecuted under Section 41 of the Criminal Code." The Hughes report devotes thirty-one printed pages to Colonel Deeds. Many letters and telegrams passing between Colonel Deeds, H. E. Talbott and E. C. Kettering of the Dayton-Wright Airplane Company are produced to

demonstrate what Mr. Hughes terms "highly suggestive transactions with his former business associates at Dayton." Mr. Hughes also reveals Colonel Deeds's connections with the United Motors Corporation, the Dayton Metal Products Company, the Dayton Engineering Laboratories Company and the Domestic Building Company and with the Wilbur Wright and McCook aviation fields, on which the Government spent \$3,949,000. The report says:

His (Deeds's) statement to the Aircraft Production Board on August 28, 1917, that he had made a bona-fide transfer of all his stock in the United Motors Corporation when the stock had not been transferred, and at most he contemplated a gift of the stock to his wife, was neither candid nor truthful.

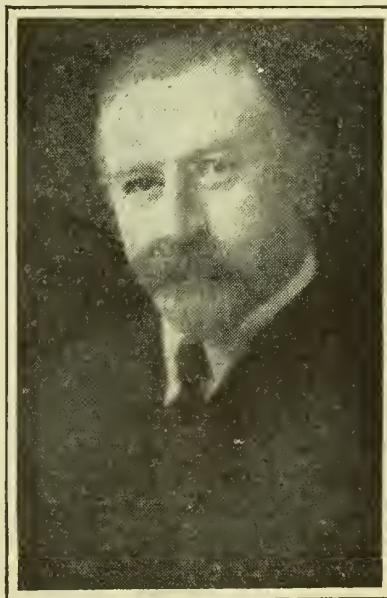
In conclusion Mr. Hughes recommended the court-martial of Colonel Deeds

for his conduct (1) in acting as confidential advisor of his former business associate, H. E. Talbott of the Dayton-Wright Airplane Company, and in conveying information to Mr. Talbott in an improper manner with respect to the transaction of business as between that company and the division of the Signal Corps of which Colonel Deeds was the head; and (2) in giving to representatives of the Committee on Public Information a false and misleading statement with respect to the progress of aircraft production.

Colonel Deeds was not court-martialed, though on November 11, 1918, the Judge Advocate General, acting on the Hughes report, so recommended. Secretary Baker sent the case back to the Judge Advocate for re-examination and on December 26th the Secretary received a report from the Judge Advocate reversing the earlier recommendation and stating that there should be no trial. A few days previously Colonel Deeds had been banquetted and given a "rising vote of confidence" by some of his associates in the War Department.

It is interesting to note the means by which the Packard Motor Car Company was able to increase its "agreed fixed profit" on the manufacture of 3,660 Liberty Motors from \$2,287,500 to \$3,934,500. The company received a contract to make 6,000 engines at a profit of fifteen percent of cost which was arbitrarily fixed at \$6,087 per motor, though a motor expert informed Colonel Deeds at the time that the engines could be built for \$2,400 apiece, exclusive of overhead.

The arbitrarily fixed-cost price per motor is what Air Service officials term the "bogey price." It was a term commonly used in negotiations and often



H. L. Scaife, lawyer, former captain, Air Service, who served six months as special Department of Justice agent, resigning when he felt his efforts were coming to naught

embodied in actual contracts. This is a puzzling circumstance. It would suggest on first glance that a golf enthusiast was the author. If such is the case, there are a lot of golfers who would like a few open shots on the course where bogey is as easy to attain as it proved to be in the Packard and many other contracts. For the benefit of those who are retaining their sweet dispositions by letting golf alone a few words of explanation regarding "bogey" may serve to throw new light upon the matter. Bogey is one of the most significant and annoying terms in golf. Every course has its bogey, which is an imaginary score which none but the most expert can hope to equal or beat. The object of golf is not to cultivate profanity or to establish that a woman's place is in the home, as has been charged, but to knock a little ball around a couple of miles of course in as few strokes as possible. The supreme object in every game is to approach as nearly as possible the fixed bogey score. To achieve bogey is a thrill that comes once in a lifetime—or a season at least—to the average player. It is about like holding four aces. Every stroke under bogey brings rare honor indeed, and, if it is that kind of a game, rare financial emolument to the player.

So a golfer looking over this contract which fixed the Packard Company's profits at fifteen percent of "bogey," or \$6,087, if he considered the analogy a correct one, would probably conclude that the Government had driven a shrewd bargain. He would conclude, based on golf experience, that the contractor would have his work cut out for him if he were to keep the production cost per engine within \$1,000 as low as bogey. But the framers of the contract must have had something in mind that was different from golf. Shortly after the agreement was signed it became apparent that the Government had driven anything but a shrewd bargain. Bogey price accordingly was cut to \$5,000 and the percentage of profit on that basis to twelve and one-half. This would yield the Packard company \$625 on each engine, provided each engine cost \$5,000 to manufacture. In case the company could beat bogey it was to receive a bonus of twenty-five percent of the saving.

It may do some golfers good to learn that for once in his life old Colonel Bogey got a beating that made him look like a nickel's worth of radium. The Packard people sent him to the clubhouse talking to himself. On the first six hundred engines turned out Packard smashed through that bogey \$5,000 and turned in an average score of \$3,873 on the cost of those engines. For this feat of prowess the company collected \$625 on each engine, or twelve and one-half percent of \$5,000, and not \$3,873, which each engine actually cost, plus a bonus of twenty-five percent of the saving of \$1,127 on each motor, or \$281.75. Thus their profits per engine were \$956.75, or nearer twenty-five percent than twelve and one-half percent of the cost price.

This was pretty good, but better things yet were in store for the Packard Motor Car Company. The motors became cheaper and cheaper to make, bogey easier and easier to beat. When 1,200 had been turned out the average

cost had been scaled down to \$3,442 per engine, and subsequent production lowered the average cost of the whole to about \$3,200 each, so it appears that toward the end of the contract the engines were being made for less than \$2,500 each, including overhead. When the production average dropped to \$3,200 per engine the Packard company was still making its guarantee of \$625 plus a bonus which now amounted to \$450, or a total of \$1,075 per engine. On the 3,660 motors delivered before the Armistice the company therefore received, in addition to its fixed profits of \$2,287,500, bonuses running up into the neighborhood of \$1,647,000—a total of \$3,934,500, which for fifteen months' work is not so bad.

It is not known what steps, if any, have been taken to ascertain whether the Government can recover any of the money it paid the Packard Company, but suit for the return of \$9,188,000 has already been brought against another maker of Liberty motors, the Lincoln Motor Company, which was recently acquired by Henry Ford.

An "Unconscionable" Contract

THE Lincoln Motor Company was organized in Detroit August 29, 1917, by Henry M. Leland, a pioneer automobile builder, and his son, Wilford C. Leland. Two days later they landed for their infant corporation a contract to build six thousand airplane engines at a fixed profit of \$913.05 each. In this contract the Government reserved right to cancel on thirty days' notice, which provision, says the elder Leland, "put the enterprise on a most precarious footing, and it was only the patriotism of the men who laid their money and their services in the lap of their country that justified the venture." Thomas F. Lane of the Air Service legal staff, however, takes another view. In a formal opinion he calls Mr. Leland's statement "the most glaring sore of unjustified self-praise" and denounces the terms of the contract as "outrageous" and "unconscionable." The contract did not stand. It was revised in December, 1917, and profits cut to \$625 per engine. In the new contract the Lelands gained in another direction by obtaining a stipulation with reference to depreciation. The Government was to allow the difference between the war cost and post-war value of the company's heat treating plant; the company was permitted to charge the whole cost of its testing plant to production expense; the company was to collect in cash forty percent of the cost of all equipment used in carrying out the contract.

The company then began getting cash advances from the Government with which to construct a plant and turn out engines. These advances total \$10,800,000, and are the largest made to any aircraft contractor. A plant which is called the finest of its kind in the world was erected at Detroit at a cost of \$8,500,000. In July, 1918, the company landed another contract for nine thousand motors for which the Government guaranteed to pay a flat price of \$4,000. These cost about \$2,725 apiece to make, yielding thus a profit of \$1,275 per motor. Then came the Armistice, and despite the company's later contention that the July contract was "uncancellable" the Government began to liquidate its affairs

with the Lincoln Company. The Government paid the company a total of \$45,065,000 and it received in all 6,500 motors, which had cost, including a million dollars for unfinished work, nearly two million for special tools and other liberal allowances, \$31,078,000.

The Lincoln Company negotiated some pretty favorable contracts with the Government during the war, but the one it negotiated on January 6, 1919, beats them all. It provided for the payment to the contractor of fifty-five percent of the total cost of its entire plant, machinery and equipment as "special depreciation" and the payment of \$1,000,000 for anticipated profits on engines which were never made. Of this contract Mr. Lane says:

Production was at an end and the obligations of the Government were fixed by the original contract and neither the Secretary of War nor any of his subordinates had the slightest authority to increase the obligations of the Government. The principles of law supporting this position are elementary and cannot be disputed.

The 1919 contract enabled the company to lay claim to the whole of the \$13,987,000 unexpended remainder of the \$45,065,000 which had been advanced by the United States. The company not only laid claim to this money; it received it. This "profit" is distributed as follows:

A. Amortization on plant, machinery, equipment and land	\$4,565,000
B. Unearned profits on 2,500 un-built motors	\$1,000,000
C. Manufacturing profit on 6,500 motors and spare parts delivered	\$8,422,441
Total.....	\$13,987,441

This figure, contends Mr. Lane, embraces "erroneous and unlawful payments" to the Lincoln Company totaling \$9,188,561, which on March 21st last he recommended that the Government seek to recover.

Mr. Lane's report charges that the \$8,500,000 plant; toward the building of which the Government contributed \$4,565,000, was constructed primarily not for the manufacture of Liberty motors but for automobiles, in which business the Lincoln Company engaged immediately after the war. Under date of March 9th a memorandum of W. R. Reece, principal accountant, and W. J. Barry, senior cost accountant of the Air Service, whose audit of the Lincoln transactions brought out the enormous overpayments the Government alleges, supports this view, saying:

We are astounded with the findings in connection with the cost of the land, buildings, machinery and equipment which was used for the purpose of manufacturing these motors. We have been unable to find among the files and records that the Government had at any time anything to do with the erection or the cost of this gigantic plant. . . . Ordinarily in the production of Liberty motors or any other article required by the Air Service a building of temporary or perhaps semi-temporary nature would only have been required, but in this case it is very clear that the contractor did not have the Government's interest at heart when he erected this building, nor did they have in mind that the building was

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A Tip on the Market

By A. B. Bernd

(AUTHOR'S NOTE—In the fall of 1918 the French Government, anxious to coax hoarded silver from the thrifty stockings of its peasants and to get metal for coinage, ordered the recall of certain one and two franc pieces bearing the portrait of Napoleon III. If the author's memory serves him properly, these coins were redeemable at their face value before October 1, 1918; after that date, the Banque de France would redeem them at a fraction of their original worth. Because American soldiers were not trained in the vagaries of foreign coinage, a large number of the pieces remained in olive drab pockets after the date of recall.)

"NAPOLEON is not pleased with his beefsteak," announced Clement, standing respectfully before the cashier's desk at which sat La Veuve Martin herself.

"What is it that it is, that?" asked La Veuve, unmoved.

"It is not sufficiently well cooked," replied the waiter. "*Pas assez bien cuit,*" he said to me, "Send it back to the kitchen."

"And did you do so?"

"Napoleon's word is law, Madame la Proprietaire." He bowed and answered the call of "*Garçon!*" which had come from a near-by table.

My experience with wartime restaurants in France had convinced me that it must be an unusual person indeed whose word would be law to one of the unmovables who recommended the *omelette aux fines herbes* or the *saucissons* as the particular bright dish for luncheon. It was a privilege I had hardly expected Foch himself to enjoy. Consequently I watched Clement, as the novelists say, narrowly. It was a surprise to see him, a few moments later, place a large browned steak before an American private at a neighboring table, and ask, ceremoniously:

"*Viola, Monsieur! Ça vous plait à present?*"

The answer was an affirmative headshake, and a muttered "*Oui.*" Clement grimaced as he withdrew.

On my way out, I stopped to chat with Madame Martin.

"Is it the American soldier that you call Napoleon?" I asked.

She was visibly confused by my question, embarrassed by the common nationality of Napoleon and myself.

"Yes, Monsieur. There is no offense, I trust? It is only the waiter's pleasantry. It makes nothing."

"I am not at all offended," I answered, "only curious. Is he so great a soldier that one must call him after the greatest soldier?"

"*Mais non.* He is no great soldier at all, Monsieur, so far as I can learn. He has told me that he spends the entire war here in the *Ravitaillement*. Oh, no, Monsieur! It is not that! No, no, no—"

I interrupted the string of denials to ask:

"Has he then the majestic brow and truculent forelock of the Little Corporal?"

"Nor that either, Monsieur. *En effet*, it is not for the great Napoleon

at all that he is named, but for the last Emperor. *Vous savez*, the one who lost our dear Lorraine."

"How? Does this man lose things?"

"No." She paused. "I confuse you. I shall tell you. It is Clement who has given him the name, because each day he leaves a Napoleon franc as tip."

"You understand, Monsieur, that the coins which bear the face of the last Emperor have been recalled by the Government. Those which were not turned in at the Bank on the first day of October are no longer worth their full value. Really, they are scarcely worth ten sous. Yet this countryman of yours—no offense, I hope, Monsieur—who used to leave a franc each day for Clement, now leaves him only a Napoleon franc, which is worth less than half its value."

"Where did he get enough of them to leave one each day?" I asked.

"The good God alone knows," answered Madame. "It has been happening for weeks. A servant without Clement's sense of humor would long ago have been irritated beyond endurance, Monsieur."

How I insinuated myself into Napoleon's friendship during the days which succeeded, it is useless to recount. Sufficient be it that my motive was the laudable one of studying human nature,

a motive sometimes reviled under the name of curiosity. I wanted to know why the boy insisted on leaving this particular kind of coin as a tip, and where he had collected his seemingly endless supply.

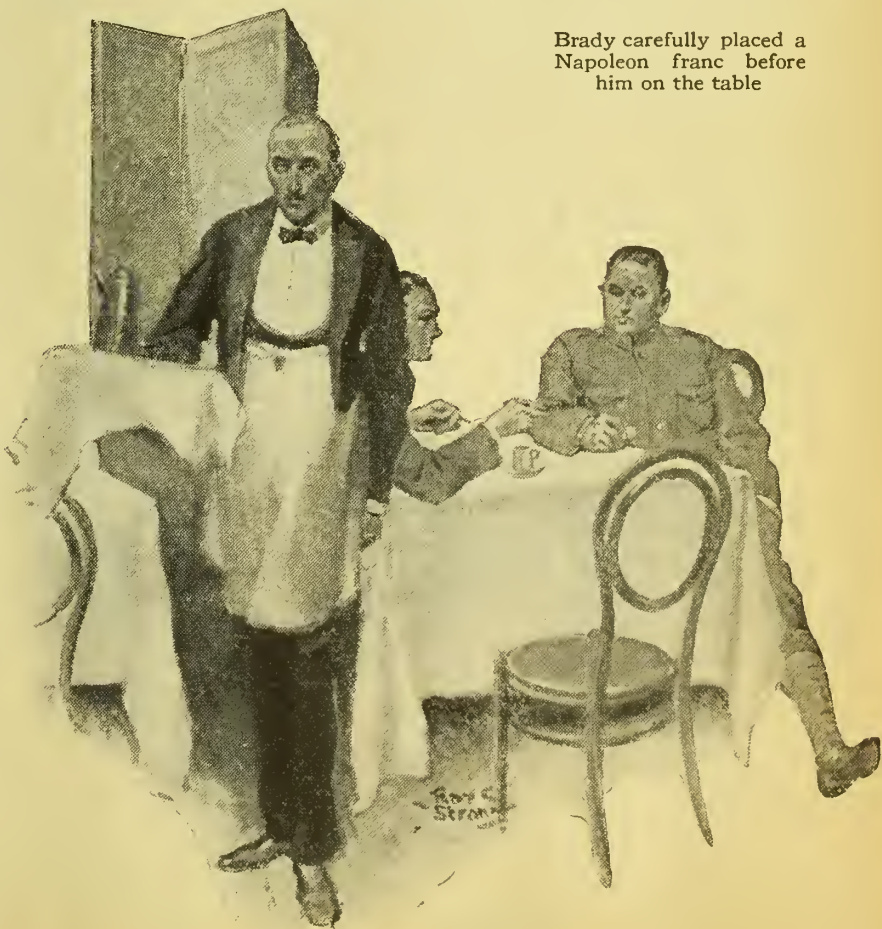
After a few weeks we were lunching together regularly at La Veuve's. Each day, as we departed, Brady—I learned that this was his name—carefully searched among the coins in his pocket for a Napoleon franc, and as carefully placed it before him on the table.

The boy was thoughtless in his expenditure of money. The rarest pastries were not too dear for him; he took Sauterne, which I reserved for such commemorative dinners as birthdays or Christmas, as his luncheon wine. He wore a tailored uniform which added inches to his stature and emphasized the round face and dreaming eyes to the advantage of his appearance.

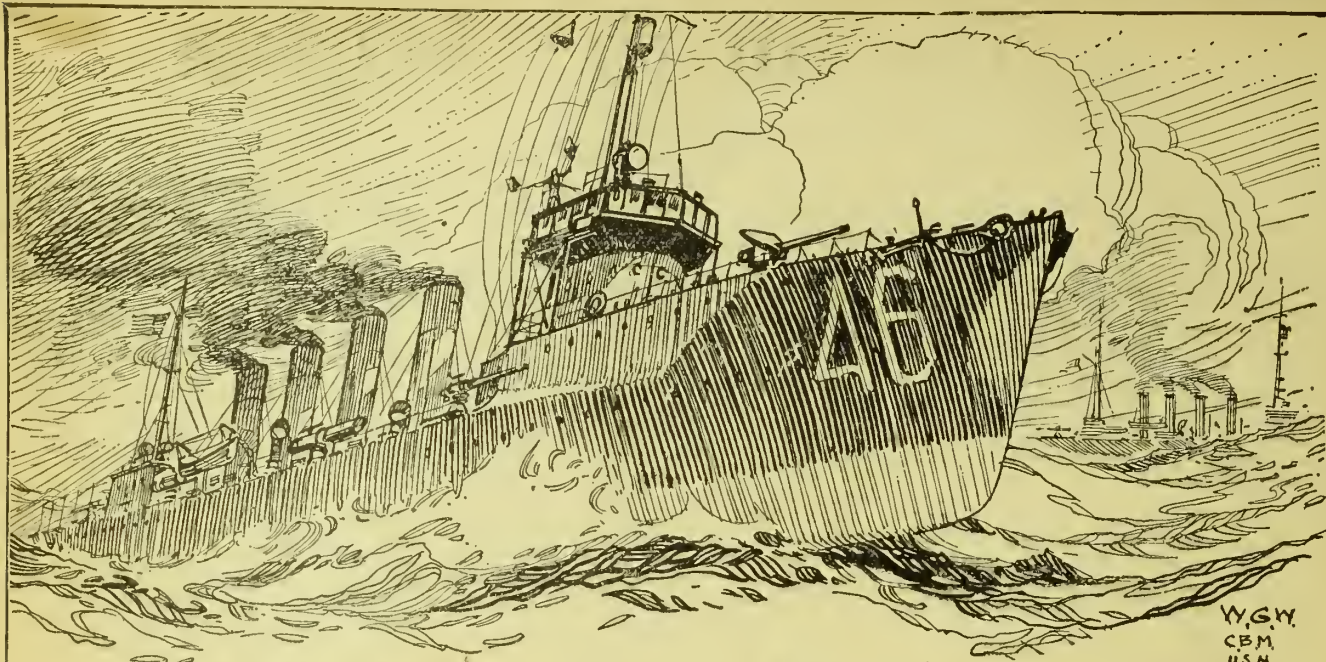
I say "dreaming eyes." He never seemed to be quite conscious that he was living. He was always preoccupied with thoughts a thousand miles away. In the midst of a sentence he would stop, fork in air, and gaze abstractedly at his water glass until my laughter recalled him.

"Yes," he said one day, "I know I'm

(Continued on page 26)



Brady carefully placed a Napoleon franc before him on the table



W.G.W.
C.B.M.
U.S.N.

A Ballad of the Destroyers

By James McB. Dabbs

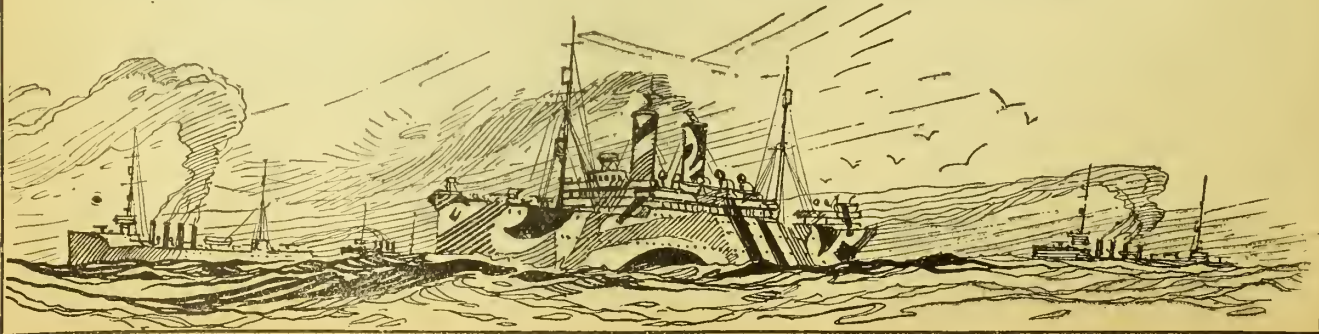
The long wharves cheered as the transport cleared,
And the squat tugs warped us down,
And the buoy-bell tolled a long farewell
As we dropped below the town.
Then the shore fell white like a band of light,
And the rushing foam flew high;
And we drove to the dawn till a week was gone,
With naught but the sea and the sky.

For they deemed we could race if the subs gave chase,
And show 'em our tail, and so
We thundered swift through the lonely drift
And scorned the convoy slow.
Till a dawn came up o'er the gray sea's cup
In a swirl of cloud and flame,
And the wise ones knew we were plowing through
The graveyard without a name.

Oh, the morn hung gray that eerie day
While the good ship tacked and veered;
And eyes were bright for the hated sight
Of a periscope upreared.
Till a smudge of smoke the low sky broke,
And another there, and there!
And over the rim of the skyline dim
Five lean sea-hounds leaped clear.

Oh, the smoke poured black from the quivering stack,
As the long low craft raced in,
Mottled gray like the sea that day
And swift like the blight of sin.
They circled our ship as swallows dip,
And trailed like hounds, till we
Uplifted a cry, full-throated, high,
For the watchdogs of the sea!

The good Lord knows how they ride the flows
Of the foam-flecked ocean waste,
Or how they come when the radio's dumb
To pick up a ship in haste.
But down from the rim of the skyline dim
They plunged through the long sea swell;
And the black subs cursed, but they never durst
Bark back at the hounds of hell.



The Five-Fold Bill's Victory in the Senate

By J. W. Rixey Smith

[As this issue of the Weekly goes to press the Adjusted Compensation Bill, following its passage by both houses of Congress, is in conference between Senate and House committees. Following action by the conferees it will go to the President, who has the option of signing the bill, vetoing it, or allowing it to become law without his signature, which it does automatically unless he acts on it within ten days of its receipt. Whether definite action will have been taken by the time this appears depends largely on how long the bill remains in conference.—EDITOR'S NOTE.]

THE passage of the Adjusted Compensation Bill by the Senate marks the end, for the veteran the triumphant end, of one of the greatest legislative battles in the history of Congress. Regardless of the President's action, whether he signs or whether he vetoes (and he will probably have acted by the time this appears in print), the record has been made, and neither wit nor propaganda nor press report can cancel half a line of it. "We owe you this money," the Congress has said, twice through the House of Representatives and now finally through the Senate, to the four million eight hundred thousand veterans of the World War. The debt is at last acknowledged, be the payment as it may.

It took the greatest deliberative body in the world a week to pass the bill, after it was taken up at noon, Wednesday, August 23d, under a special rule making it the unfinished business of the Senate. Through those eight days of listless debate, with Senators speaking to empty Senate seats but crowded galleries, the measure moved forward steadily through the entanglements of amendment and parliamentary opposition to its third reading and passage. All opposition was steam-rolled flat. Those Senators who raised their voices against the bill, for the most part, stood like bashful schoolboys and read short and carefully prepared "pieces."

It was quite evident, through the whole of the final debate, that the opposition, conscious of overwhelming defeat on the floor of the Senate, was willing, if indeed not anxious, to have the slaughter over and the scene of action shifted from the Capitol to the White House. Indeed, Senators Borah and Underwood spent the most of their time during the eight days trying to amass and hold together the necessary number of votes to sustain the presidential veto which they were daring to hope for but hardly daring to expect.

The supporters of the bill, on the other hand, under the leadership of Senators McCumber and Robinson, from the advantageous parliamentary position they occupied by reason of the

special rule, pressed the debate calmly and evenly to its logical conclusion. And over the whole of the stage, as the play went on, hung the dark shadow of uncertainty as to what the President would do.

The eight days' debate and parliamentary procedure preceding the passage of the bill, while cut and dried and thoroughly premeditated in every detail, were nevertheless not without their element of the dramatic. When on Saturday, August 19th, with the

ON AUGUST 31st the United States Senate passed the Adjusted Compensation Bill, 47 to 22, following a week of momentous import in the annals of veteran legislation. In this article Mr. Smith sketches the events of that week leading up to the final triumph in the Senate of the Legion's measure.

dust and din of the tariff battle still in the air, Senator McCumber of North Dakota rose in his seat, the packed galleries knew that at last the long-delayed Adjusted Compensation Bill had the right of way on the Senate floor. The gray-haired veteran whose long legislative career has recently been brought to an end by defeat for renomination just at the time when he was at the height of his power never presented a more striking figure than when, immediately after the vote on the tariff was announced, he took the floor and asked the chair that under the special order the Adjusted Compensation Bill be laid before the Senate as unfinished business.

There were many who remembered that the same bill had twice before been presented to the tender mercies of the same body. As he stood there calm, confident and determined, fresh from the glories of the tariff fight, and ready for another, the gentleman from North Dakota was the embodiment of the long struggle in which he was now to play the leading rôle in the final scene. How the bill, passed by the House of Representatives on May 29, 1920, came to the Senate Finance Committee shortly before the adjournment of Congress; how the late Boies Penrose, of Pennsylvania, was ill and Senator McCumber was acting chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee, to which the bill was committed; how the bill died that session in the committee's pigeonhole; how

early in the next session of Congress on June 20, 1921, the Finance Committee, under the leadership of Senator McCumber, reported the bill favorably to the Senate; how after the Senate, after a vote of 46 to 4, had made the measure its unfinished business, President Harding and the Secretary of the Treasury hurled their opposition against it and procured recommitment by a vote of 47 to 29; how, for the second time, the House of Representatives passed the bill on March 23, 1922; how the weary months of revenue and tariff debate dragged on; how a Republican caucus of the Senate on June 19th refused to place the bill ahead of the tariff but adopted a resolution pledging action immediately upon passage of the tariff; how the special order was adopted by the Senate on the next day making the bill unfinished business upon passage of the tariff; and how now, at the end of this long string of parliamentary juggling, the measure had at length reached the voting stage—how all these things and many more had come to pass in the history of the bill stood out in the memory of everyone as the chairman of the Finance Committee stood there with the little pamphlet in his hand upon which hinged so much of the hope and welfare of nearly 5,000,000 veterans—the printed copy of the bill itself.

Immediately after the bill was laid before the Senate a recess was taken until noon the following Wednesday. At the fall of the gavel on that day the Senate galleries were jammed, in sharp contradistinction to the practically deserted Senate floor, where with the utmost difficulty a quorum was maintained. It was noticeable that the men's galleries in particular were crowded with young faces. It was quite evident that something was expected to happen. Upon conclusion of the morning's business Senator McCumber began a two-hour speech advocating the bill's passage.

The McCumber speech was an able, comprehensive and forceful presentation of the Adjusted Compensation cause; with it the debate approached the dignity of statesmanship. Practically all of the other speeches made in support of the measure in the days that followed were variations of his big theme; practically all made against it were short thrusts searching some possible weakness in his armor. After a brief review of the bill's history, he plunged boldly ahead: The objections of the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, upon the strength of which the Senate had voted to recommit the bill in July, 1921, were no longer valid, the tax and tariff bills had passed and the refunding of the Allied debt had at least reached a stage where success was assured; Great Britain was preparing to meet the interest due this fall; provision had been made so

that the Government should not be compelled under the terms of the bill to expend any cash, except for administrative purposes, until the calendar year 1923.

"A close examination of the bill," he said, "will show an estimated expense for the calendar year of 1923 of \$77,440,889; for the calendar year of 1924 of \$92,177,729; for the calendar year of 1925 of \$73,100,962. The largest amount required will be in 1926. By 1930 it will drop to \$21,100,000, and will be only a few millions thereafter until 1943."

Then he proceeded to tell how such expenditures could be met: The country can meet this obligation without additional taxes, through the interest coming in from foreign loans, by economies effected through the budget, or the sale of a very small part of our foreign bonds. The great part of all the gold in the world is in our vaults. We are the greatest creditor nation on earth. Our banks are filled to overflowing and looking for opportunities to lend not millions but billions to foreign countries. Since 1919 we have reduced our national indebtedness by more than \$3,000,000,000.

"Let me call attention to the fact that we have already refunded about a billion dollars of these short-time obligations before they become due, and if we can fund seven billion dollars of short-time obligations gradually, as we are now doing, without a ripple in the sea of finance, is it possible that we must look for a financial earthquake if our national indebtedness should even be increased a little \$78,000,000 in any year? Twenty millions given in charity to Russia, \$25,000,000 to salve Colombian sentiment, \$20,000,000 for ship subsidy, cause not a ripple of comment. We talk of \$125,000,000 for good roads, or two or three hundred millions to assist railways, all in a single year, as if they amounted to nothing. We do not dream of suggesting a special tax to meet this \$125,000,000. Why on earth, then, should we approach this soldiers' Adjusted Compensation Bill, the payments of which may be scattered over half a century, and the 1923 payment being little over half that sum, as though it were an obligation requiring a special tax levy or one endangering the refunding of short-time obligations?"

After appealing to the President and Secretary Mellon "to view this proposed legislation in the light of present-day conditions," Mr. McCumber turned his remarks to the proposition, "Is there a moral obligation on the part of the American people to adjust the compensation that the American soldier received during the war to make it more nearly conform to the added compensation received by every other American citizen during that war?" There was such an obligation, a compelling unescapable one, he contended. "Yes, everlastingly yes," he answered his own question, fortifying his answer

with quotations from army and civilian wage scales of the war period and with references to the "notorious looting" of the public treasury by war contractors.

There was yet another reason, Senator McCumber told the Senate, why the bill should be passed at once—to refute the charges in a great part of the metropolitan press that the bill was "a bid for the soldier vote." "The enactment of this soldiers' legislation will not make the difference of a single vote for either party on the part of the American soldiers. The failure, however, to enact this legislation will, and very properly so, subject this Congress to the accusation that when the House passed the soldiers' Adjusted Compen-

to the consternation of the opposition, the bill was going to slide right on through that same day. But appearances were deceitful; in a little while the great machine slowed down to its usual gait and the Adjusted Compensation Bill was displaced for the afternoon by Senator McNary's bill "to regulate foreign commerce in the importation into the United States of the adult honeybee."

The next day, Thursday, August 24th, was practically a holiday for the Senate, so far as the Adjusted Compensation Bill, its unfinished business, was concerned. The Democrats turned the greater part of the day into a veritable field day on the subject of Senator Newberry and Secretary of State Hughes.

It was late in the afternoon before "the Senate, as in Committee of the Whole, resumed the consideration of the bill (H. R. 10874) to provide adjusted compensation for veterans of the World War, and for other purposes," Senator Oscar Underwood of Alabama taking the floor and delivering what deserves to rank as the leading speech against the bill. Upon taking his seat he was re-enforced by Senator Wadsworth of New York, who undertook to call Senator McCumber to account, as he contended, for insinuating that the loyalty of the veterans of the country could only be insured by the passage of the bill. Senator McCumber promptly denied that any such idea had ever entered his head. Senators Heflin of Alabama and Sheppard of Texas each put in a few words for the bill, after which the Senate discussed the coal

situation for an hour and adjourned.

"Unfinished business" in the Senate is a very flexible term, for again Friday, August 25th, the Senate talked and voted and considered practically anything and everything but the Adjusted Compensation Bill, such as rent of post office buildings, extermination of insects, regulation of election expenses, additional district judges, and the proposed national coal commission. It did find time to stage, however, one scene of peculiar interest to the ex-service men of the country. Well on toward adjournment Senator New of Indiana stood up, adjusted his glasses and read in almost a monotone from manuscript a short speech announcing his stand against the adjusted compensation measure. He closed with the following statement:

"It may or it may not be worthy of note that every member of this body who has ever been in the military or naval service of his Government at any period of his life, and who is here to vote at all, is arrayed in opposition to the bill."

There was an audible stir in the galleries. All eyes turned to where Senator Reed, the new Republican senator from Pennsylvania and an ex-service man, was sitting on that part of the Democratic side known as the "Cherokee Strip" which holds the over-

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A Bigger Legion—a Duty to Others

TO PUT all our endeavors over, to make the things we have planned real, we must have membership. It is to you and your post, not to National Headquarters—for we are but your servants to carry out your commands in National Convention assembled—that all the credit for what the LEGION has accomplished and will accomplish is due. Certainly we owe it to our less fortunate buddies and to the men who did not come back to build an organization which can accomplish the things they fought for and carry out what we believe to be their desire. We must have the power and prestige which membership gives us to accomplish these things.

HANFORD MACNIDER.

sation Bill just before the election in 1920 and assured the American soldier that it would be passed by the other House as early as possible in the next succeeding session, they were playing politics."

Rising to the climax of his address, the Senator from North Dakota quoted the preamble to the constitution of The American Legion, praised the loyalty of the American soldier, characterized the bill as "a fair bill, just to the country, just to the soldier," and finally declared: "Mr. President, to my mind every precept of financial justice and every principle of political honor demand that this Soldiers' Compensation Bill be passed into a law at this session of Congress."

The chairman of the Finance Committee was scarcely done speaking when Senator Robinson jumped to his feet, serving notice in effect that he intended to lead the majority of Democrats to the support of the bill, and calling on Senator McCumber for information as to the President's intentions. There was a distinct hush in the galleries and on the floor as Senator McCumber replied, "I have no information whatever as to what the President will do." Quickly thereafter and in record-breaking time the Senate adopted the thirty-eight amendments to the House bill reported by the Finance Committee, and it looked as if, much



Face of the Pennsylvania Legion Medal



Reverse: "For God and Country"

A Real Reward for Real Boys

The Legion in Pennsylvania Is Encouraging Scholarship and Americanism by Awarding Medals to the Best School Pupils of the State

By Franklin Stetson Clark

THOSE who say that The American Legion makes the eagle scream without giving much in return in the way of substantial rations ought to take a look at what the Department of Pennsylvania has been doing. Along about the time school was opening last fall its Americanism commission brought before the department convention a plan for making an annual award of a Legion medal to the best all-around boy in the graduating class of every grammar school in the State where there are ten or more boys to compete. The plan was adopted. Last June the award was actually made in some two hundred schools in different parts of the State. Next June, the plan will be taken up on a still wider scope, and so on, it is hoped, until it includes every school in the State.

It is a plan not exactly turning the world upside down, perhaps. You might think at first that the Blankety Blank Post makes more of a ripple most any Fourth of July, with a street parade, a speech by the mayor, a baseball game, athletic events and fireworks and a dance in the evening. But take a look at the basis on which this medal is awarded. Under the head of "Qualifications" in the leaflet which describes the medal it says:

"The boy to whom the medal is awarded shall be chosen by—

- "1. His scholastic attainments.
- "2. His fondness for and success in sports.
- "3. His qualities of manhood, truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness and fellowship.
- "4. His exhibition of moral force of character and his instincts to lead and to take an interest in his schoolmates.

"In judging these qualities weight will be given to the classifications as follows:

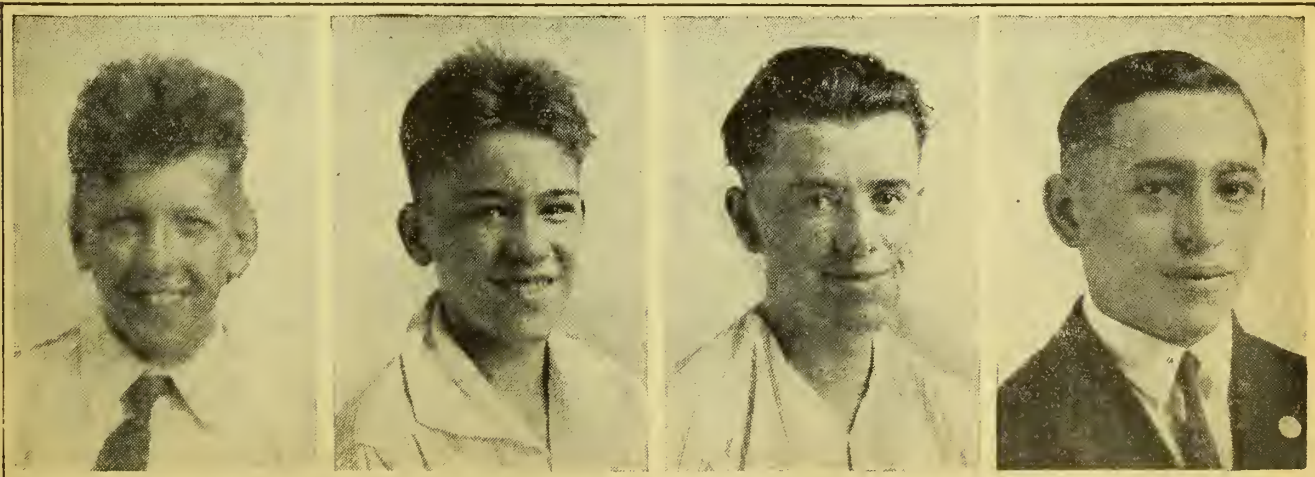
- "30%—No. 1.
- "20%—No. 2.
- "30%—No. 3.
- "20%—No. 4."

Now shut your eyes and try to pic-

ture the kind of boy it takes to win this medal. Not the type Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes would warm up to, is he? In fact there's little doubt that the Pennsylvania youngster who wins The American Legion Medal must have the makings of a solid American in him. He will be the sort of youngster who will lead others in the same direction. And consider that this medal has actually been awarded to two hundred boys who filled the bill; that thousands of others competed for it; that where it was awarded to hundreds this year it will be awarded to thousands next year; that it will be awarded to still other thousands in years to come; that still other thousands will compete for it and work some of the things it stands for into their systems. That's looking at it from the theoretical aspect. But it's just as convincing when you see and talk with the boys who won the medal, and their teachers.

Yes, the idea is taking hold. The Pennsylvania Americanism Commission's hope that every last post in the State will take it upon itself to award medals to every last school in its district is not remote of fulfillment. While the Lawrence E. Delaney Post of Philadelphia was picked at random for the purposes of this article, in order to get

(Continued on page 24)



On the right, Myer Epstein, who won an American Legion medal for scholarship and other attainments in the largest public school in Philadelphia after less than a year's residence in America. The others, from right to left, are James Michael Dolan, Bernard F. Elbe and Kenneth Buehrle, who won similar medals in other schools

EDITORIAL

When General Harbord Cited Scripture

FOUR years ago to-day the prestige of the American Army in the World War had been conclusively established. Château-Thierry and the fighting in the Marne salient had served to boost Yankee stock from around zero to par, and Allied morale along with it. But doubtless the suspicion lurked in some pessimistic minds that the June and July victories might have been flukes—wait and see what the newcomers would do when operating exclusively under their own management.

The test came and was met on September 12th. On September 13th the victory of St. Mihiel was complete. That day, by the way, was General Pershing's fifty-eighth birthday. (Five and eight equals thirteen, there are thirteen letters in John J. Pershing, September 13th in that year was a Friday, but let that pass.)

Anyway, according to Brigadier General Charles G. Dawes, in his "A Journal of the Great War," on the great day Major General James G. Harbord, former commander of the Second Division and then commanding general, Services of Supply, sent the following telegram to his superior officer:

Congratulations on your birthday and your fine work thereon. Nearly three hundred years ago Oliver Cromwell on the thirteenth day of the month, September, went into battle quoting Psalm 68, now the Episcopal morning prayer for that date, "Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; let them also that hate him. Like as the smoke vanishes so shalt thou drive them away."

To which General Pershing replied:

Many thanks for your birthday telegram. Your old division might well be termed The Ironsides, though I doubt whether they went to battle quoting Psalm 68.

What is Assimilation?

AMERICA should assimilate the aliens already within her borders before she permits more to enter. That is the Legion's position in arguing for total exclusion of immigrants for a period of five years.

What does that sentence mean? The term America is clear, so is the term aliens—what about that word assimilate?

It means to make like, but to make like what? Like ourselves, exactly as we are, or like the folks we know we ought to be? And is the operation to be wholly one-sided? Are we to give everything and take nothing?

Obviously not, if our history means anything. If this process of absorption had always been exclusively a single-track, one-way affair, Bostonians would now speak with a British twang beside which the reputed Harvard accent would sound halting and feeble, New York would be a thriving settlement of Dutch burghers, and Swedish would be the official language of Delaware. There are, in fact, regions where something precisely like this has actually taken place. In many New England manufacturing villages French, in the patois of Quebec, is the dominant tongue; the Mennonites' clannishness has kept them strangers to English and converted them into a little problem of their own; the ghettos and little Italys of our big cities are further examples. Assimilation has not been effected here in either direction; neither is the alien like us nor are we like him.

Whose problem is it, his or ours? Who should take the first step, he or we? These questions can best be answered by asking another: Who stands to benefit most by assimilation? The alien, certainly. If he wants to buy a loaf of bread he may be able to ask for it in his own tongue at a bakery within his own colony—but he must pay for it in American money. If he wants a street-car transfer he must ask the conductor for it—in English. If he wants to buy a home on mortgage or make a will he can consult a lawyer who is a fellow-countryman—but the document itself, to be valid, must conform to our laws.

Self-interest is a powerful motive, but not everyone knows his own self interest when he sees it. This is especially true

of the foreigner faced by the formidable problem of learning a new language, a new way of government, a new way of life. Shall he stay in his shell or come out? Anything we can do to help him, honestly and intelligently, is bound to react in our favor. If we are to assimilate him, if we are to make him like ourselves, it is for us to show him who and what we are—and to make him see that our example is worth following.

Penalizing Patriotism

THE voluntary retirement of four major-generals and two brigadiers has been suggested by the War Department. The suggestion was not made because the War Department has six general officers in mind who could improve the service by their absence from it. It was made because they are soon to be retired anyway, and their withdrawal from the active army register would permit the retention of many colonels and other officers farther down the military scale who otherwise would be discharged because of reductions in commissioned personnel directed by Congress.

Regardless of the merits of the directing act, it should not be necessary for the army to sacrifice men who have reached the grade of colonel even for reasons of economy. A man has to give the best part of his life to become a colonel. He has given that part of his life to his country. To discharge him after he reaches that rank is to penalize him for his faithfulness.

Six general officers may retire voluntarily in order to maintain the morale and the services of men below them in rank. If they do so, they will suffer financial loss between the time of their retirement and the time they reach the age of sixty-four, when they would be automatically retired. The United States cannot afford to let such men lose by their service.

Not in November Alone

"VOTE early and often." That was the advice of more than one old-time canny if not over-scrupulous politician to his followers on the eve of election day.

The direct primary has made voting "often" the legitimate prerogative of the citizen. Its opponents may argue that it has opened a new train of abuses, but the measure of a good thing is often found in the extent of its abuse—the dry enthusiast will tell you that of prohibition. The fact remains that if the direct primary is being abused, that is all the more reason for the honest citizen's making his influence felt whenever a primary is held.

Vote as often as you can. The man who has two opportunities to vote in one year and avails himself of only one of them is just about a fifty percent American.

A Dilemma

ANY foreigner of sufficient note to have his arrival on these shores chronicled in the newspapers immediately steps into the morass of a fearful predicament. He is interviewed. He is asked about America. All he can really say about America at this stage of his visit is that she seems to have a lot of water in her front yard and that for some potent reason the ship's bar was locked up half an hour ago, but he is asked none the less.

As he really becomes acquainted with America, really gains an insight into what manner of folk we are, he is still asked for his opinion. By this time he is laboring under another tremendous disadvantage. He can no longer say, "I have no opinion." He has got to say something, for silence implies unpronounceable condemnation. And he has got to say something good or bad—there is no fence of neutrality to straddle.

If he says something frankly, wholesomely critical, the nation rises in its pride to demand what business it is of his to come among us and find fault. Is his own country perfect? Has he seen all of us, or is he descanting upon the entire republic after a casual tour of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad?

If he says something obviously complimentary—"humph," we remark, "mere insincere flattery. If he doesn't like us why doesn't he come out with it like a man?"

There is, of course, the alternative of not asking him for his opinion at all. But then how he would hate us!



An early pioneer dreamed that the kids of Mangum might have a park, and a swimming hole, and a wading pool. The American Legion brought the dream to reality

The memorialized gateway

Coming Across for the Kids

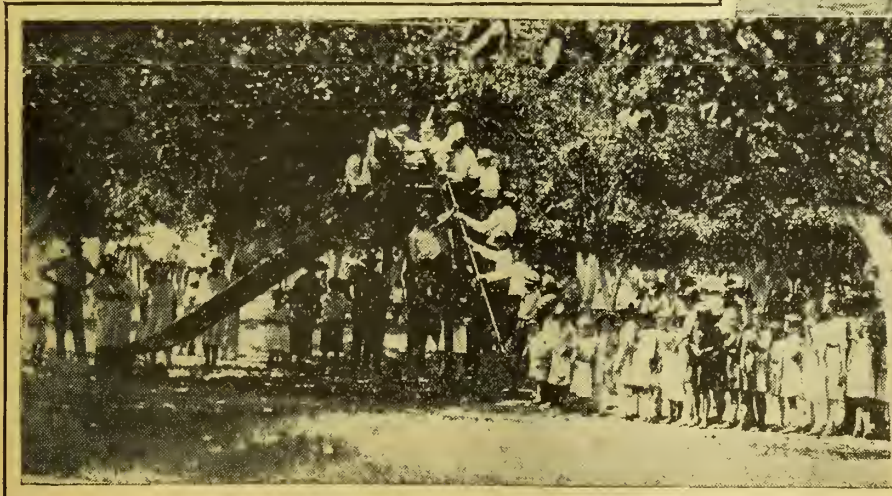
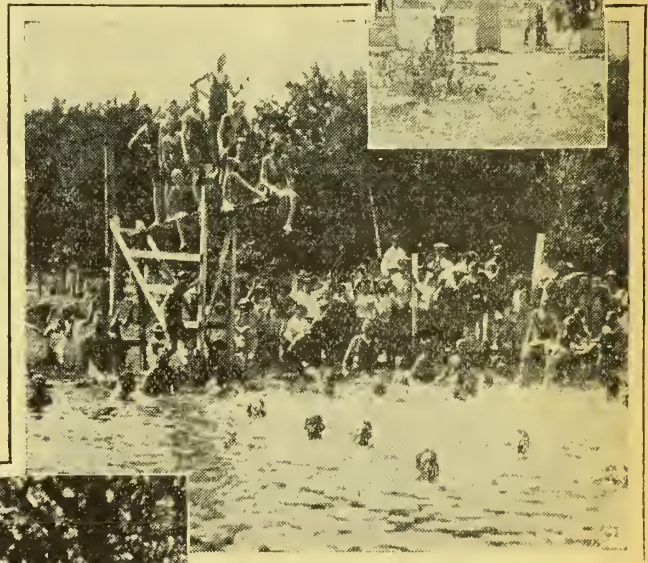
Mangum, Oklahoma, Had No Playground, No Swimming Hole, Until Paul Garrett Post Gave Up Its Clubhouse for the Children of the Town

KING GEORGE V of England decorated Major Frank H. McGregor, M.C., U.S.A., for gallantry in action during the World War. That was a hard decoration to get. But Dr. McGregor, now commander of Paul Garrett Post of The American Legion, Mangum, Oklahoma, and the other members of his post have kept on earning decorations. Their latest acquisition is an original Wally cartoon, one of the prizes The American Legion Weekly offers for instances of unselfish community service.

The reason for decorating Garrett Post is harder to appreciate now than two months ago. But Legion activity knows not the seasons of the year, so perhaps the reader can take himself back over a short space of time to con-

sider the plight of the kids of Mangum on July 27th, 1922. The town had no swimming pool. It had no playground. It was hot. The schools were closed. There was no safe, supervised place for recreation.

On July 28th, the next day, the kids of Mangum dove from a blistering spring board into the cooling depths of a pool filled with clear, fresh water. Then they came up



Line forms on the right. The playground is so popular they have to organize for the chutes

"O Skin-nay, c'mon over!" Swimming might have become a lost art in Mangum if it hadn't been for the Legion

for air, in the middle of a beautiful, park-like playground, to tell the world that the Legionnaires of Paul Garrett Post are good sports. Because Paul Garrett Post gave the kids of Mangum that swimming pool, and a playground, too. It cost the post its own proposed clubhouse, but it was worth while, the post believes.

To-day the business men of Mangum call the Legionnaires of their town good citizens. The mothers of Mangum bless them for finding a safe place for their children to play in. The kids themselves are inarticulate with gratitude. (Continued on page 24)

Keeping Step with the Legion

Cash in the Hand

THE first thousand dollars is the hardest to get. It's as hard for a post to get it as it was for John D. Rockefeller. The average man hasn't got it yet, and we also know a lot of posts that haven't.

But think of the posts that have got it! Them that has, gits! Money gathers money. A single *grand* can be made to earn sixty seeds a year. Ten *grands* can earn six hundred seeds a year.

The ambition of the average post is to accumulate enough money to have a fixed annual income. We note all this partly because we just got a letter from a post finance officer who says:

Don't tell them who I am—they might want to borrow money from me—but I'm the finance officer of a post that has ten thousand bucks in the treasury, and has the ten thousand out at good interest. This year we'll clip enough coupons to get \$780, just as interest. Our banker members say our securities are gilt-edged, too. They had charge of the investing.

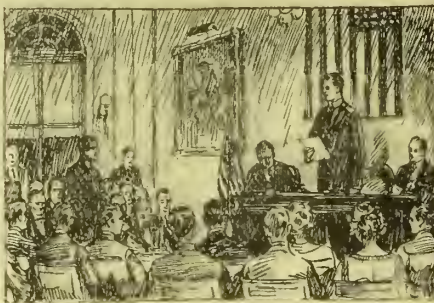
I'm not writing to brag, but just to let you know what a happy feeling it is to have money in the till. Take the first of this year, for example. When our memberships expired, did we have to start out on a brand new membership campaign, and dun every member, and use a working nucleus of half a dozen paid-up members to get out the other three hundred? We did not! We just took \$450 out of the till, sent it on as department and national dues, and then told each member that we'd spent the money, that his share of the expense was \$4 (the post dues) and that we had marked him down on the books as owing us \$4.

Maybe you think this would make them mad. It didn't; it made them glad to pay. There's a psychological difference between saying to a man, "We'd like to have you rejoin our post because the memberships all expired on the first of January," and telling him, "You are a member of our post. You owe us \$4 for dues you haven't paid. Come across!" The average Legionnaire will recognize the obligation of the debt immediately. But he won't recognize the plea that he's no longer a member, and ought to join up again.

Next year we plan to improve on this system to some extent. We're working out a scheme so that memberships will run around the year—that is, so that a fellow who joins our post March 18, 1923, will stay a member until March 18, 1924. We'll pay his dues for him on the first of each year.

Don't think that we stand the least risk in doing this. Of course, a lot of our members (the average has been forty or fifty) will be different next year from the membership this year. But the total membership will be greater. That has been our experience every year, and the records of the veteran organizations of other wars back us up. We don't anticipate a falling off until at least 1945.

Of course we couldn't do this if we didn't have money in the treasury. But we don't need all our ten thou to do it, either. Just the first thou would suffice. We like the



ten because the income of it is all we need to keep going. We don't own our own clubhouse yet, and we may build, in which case we'll sink half the money, but will save that half in rent. Some members of the post advocate sinking the whole ten, and renting out rooms in the new building. I don't think we can do this, even for the revenue, because our town has reached a size where

Legion Calendar

Indoor Sports

Try them on your post. If you plan to entertain the town this winter with a show, you've gotta start early.

The Disabled

Hospitalized veterans stand in need of many things in the winter that they did not need in the summer. Will they be warm? Will they have plenty to read?

The Essay Contest

October 6th is the last day when county school superintendents will accept essays on "How The American Legion Can Best Serve the Nation."

The Fourth National Convention

The eyes of a nation will be on New Orleans from October 16th to the 20th. If you are not there, you'll miss a lot besides the privilege of knowing that America has turned its attention for a week to the city where you are.

ten thousand dollars won't buy much of anything downtown, and we can build just as well on a side street, if we don't care about revenue from the building.

But that's another story. I'm wondering if many other posts have reached the same degree of solvency we have reached. And if they wouldn't give the same advice I'm giving: To get a big load of jack in the post till.

All this from one post official who doesn't want to keep a good thing to himself. The thing that stuck most in our crop was the system for keeping memberships going a full year no matter when they expire. We have inquired around a good deal and find that

a number of posts are doing it, although more posts than are doing it say they would if they had money enough. Apparently it's easy to keep the membership up to capacity if you can get to the members at timely intervals; if you can concentrate on individuals as their dues expire, instead of having to go after a whole post at one time, generally the first of the year.

There are other advantages to having a goodly post treasury, too. For instance, there's a post in California that had an opportunity to stage a pageant in connection with a town celebration. The pageant would make money, the celebration committee said, but it would have to finance itself until the funds for the rest of the celebration came in. Financing cost the post \$600. The post made \$900 on the pageant. If it hadn't had the original \$600, it would either have had to go without the pageant or borrow the money.

Then, too, there are such things as dances. We have had posts write in to say that they couldn't stage any more dances because they put on one and it lost money. Being broke, they had no credit. They couldn't even raise the money to hire a hall for another. If they'd been better off financially, they'd have minded the first loss less, and by now, they felt, they could have profited from the experience of the first dance to stage others that would be money-makers.

You can ask how a post is going to get a treasury if its first attempt to get one fails, and maybe we cannot give a perfect answer. However, we should like to call your attention to the fact that most posts start off pretty easy, going after sure things:

More about Music

POSTS all over the country are adopting Boy Scout troops. As a rule, the post adopts the scouts from unselfish motives. But unselfishness generally is rewarded. For instance, Walter J. Hatzfeld Post of St. Louis just sponsored a troop. When it got going good, it uncovered a drum and bugle corps of twenty-five members. Hatzfeld Post now has music with its meetings.

Defunct Outfits

THE New York County Council recently circularized former members whose posts have gone out of existence. In a city as big as New York posts are bound to drop out; once in awhile, just as new posts are forever forming. Every time a post goes out of business, it has a few left-over members who don't want to quit the Legion but do because they don't know how to get back in. Any such fellows in your town?

Helpful Hats

By Wallgren

HOW LONG ARE WE TO BE LED BY CONVENTION?

IN THE SERVICE WE WORE WHAT THEY WISHED ON US — REGULATION, UNIFORM, OR HELMET — WE HAD NO CHOICE — BUT, THAT WAS UNIFORM !!!

NOW, WE ARE BOUND BY NO SUCH RESTRICTIONS IN THE CHOICE OF HATS — AND WHAT DO WE CHOOSE?



THIS — OR THIS — OR THIS — OR THIS, IN MONOTONOUS REPETITION !!! SUCH A VARIETY !!?

LET US REVOLT — LET US HAVE HATS — NOT ONLY AS A HEAD COVERING OR A THING OF BEAUTY — BUT HATS THAT SERVE A UTILITARIAN PURPOSE — A USEFUL HAT — OR INDIVIDUALITY IN STYLE AT LEAST.



AN ELABORATION OF THE OVERSEAS CAP FOR THE MAN WITH BEAUTIFUL HAIR — VARIOUS DECORATIONS ADVERTISING ONE'S PROFESSION MAY BE WORN — AS IN THIS CASE THE SHAVING BRUSH DENOTES A BARBER.



FOR THE CAKE EATERS WHO NEVER SEEM TO BE ABLE TO GET THEIR HATS DOWN FAR ENOUGH OVER THEIR EARS. (NOTE EAR VENT)



LEGION BUTTON — LODGE OR FRATERNITY INSIGNIA AS ORNAMENT

THE HANGOVER HAT — FOR THE BIRDS WHO ASSIST ON WEARING 'EM ON ONE EAR.



HOW DO, MISS EVA!



PATENT LEATHER HAIR

FOR "PROMENADERS" TO WHOM TIPPING THE HAT IS AN ANNOYANCE — GUARANTEED NOT TO MUSS THE HAIR WHEN TIPPED



RECEPTACLE FOR HIDING PILL IN KELLY FOOL — SNAP OPENING IN FRONT TO RECOVER PILL

FOR THE "INDOOR SPORT" WHO IS FOREVER MISLAYING THE CHALK, OR HIS CIGAR, OR HIS PILL — (FOR STREET WEAR THE TASSELS CAN BE HIDDEN IN THE CROWN OR HUNG WITH ORNAMENTS)

THE SHEIK —

USED AS A HAT



COMBINATION HEADGEAR AND NAPKIN FOR THE DINER OUT WHO OBJECTS TO CHECKING HIS HAT

I'VE SAVED \$2,000,000.00 IN TIPS ALREADY!



USED AS A NAPKIN — REVERSED SO THAT STAINS DO NOT SHOW ON HAT



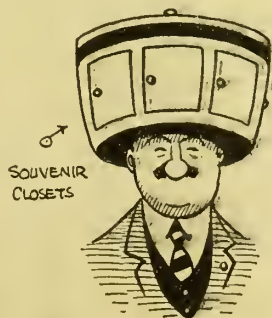
HAT BOY



CARRIER HAT FOR THE SUBURBAN COMMUTER



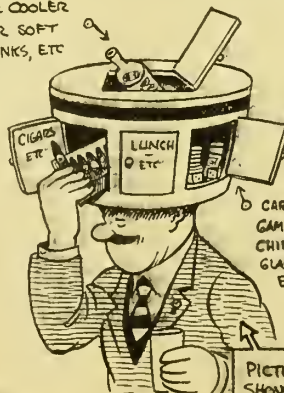
GOLF-BAG CAP — FOR THE MAN WHO CANNOT AFFORD A CADDIE.



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Handouts Across the Wheeze

Kind-hearted old lady No. 41144 watched with amazement as the corresponding specimen of tramp gobbled one of sister's dud dough-nuts, progressing from the outside to the inside almost at one gulp.

"My goodness, you were hungry!" she exclaimed.

"Yer see, mum," explained Ragged Robin, "I useta be a golfer and it's always been me ambition to make a hole in one."

"And Still Unspoiled"

"Who are you?" asked the scout for St. Peter.

"I," replied the Truthful Celebrity, "am the only famous person in the world whom an interviewer has dared to say 'was spoiled by the adulation received.'"

'Fancy!

Shandy: "I see they're got pirate bootleggers now who prey on Canadian smugglers."

Gift: "Yes, and I can remember the time when it was considered pretty rough just to be a plain bootlegger without trimmings."

In Haste

The host was nervous and inexperienced and he rose hurriedly at the conclusion of a song with which one of the guests had been obliging.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he began. "Before Mrs. Smith started to sing she—ah—told me her—ah—voice was not in the best condition and—ah—asked me to apologize for it, but I neglected to do and—ah—I apologize now."

Got the Habit

"What's all the racket in the barber shop?"

"One of the barbers is shaving himself and trying to talk himself into a massage."

A Sad Case

North: "I suppose you are sorry Bill Morgan died."

West: "Yes, very sorry. There was a friend. He never asked me to lend him a cent, although I knew perfectly well that he was starving to death."

Slight Error

The deputy sheriff was trying to break the bad news gently.

"Are you the Widow Jones, ma'am?" he asked the woman who came to the door.

"Widow Jones?" she retorted with asperity. "Not so you could notice it. My old man is sittin' back there in the kitchen this minute."

"Sorry to have disturbed you then, ma'am," replied the deputy politely. "Guess the boys down to Hoopenholler must have gone and lynched the wrong feller."

His Thoughts

The Umpteenth Artillery was noted for the amount of time it put in grooming its horses. Even when a big drive against the German lines was in progress hours were spent in grooming the horses as faithfully as when the outfit was back in the States. One day Sergeant Gruff ran across Private Perkins and a number of buddies engaged



Inactive Service

in the innocent pastime of rolling the bones.

"Hey, you," he bellowed. "Snap out of that and start grooming them horses. Perkins, what you grumblin' about now?"

"Oh, nothin'," retorted Perkins, "but every time I see how this Army is run I wish I had some money up on the Kaiser."

Adam's Private Stock

"They say Cleopatra was the world's original vamp."

"Nothing to it. Eve originated that stuff, but Cleo had more boobs to practice on."

Diplomacy

Ethel: "Did you tell Stella that you denied the vile scandal that was being circulated about her?"

Clara: "Of course. That was the only way I could find out the real facts."

Ailing

An outfit had just landed at St. Nazaire and was being housed in billets that had been recently occupied by chevaux. Each night the sneezing, coughing and mixed noises of the tenderfeet sounded like a regular serenade. On one morning the second lieutenant popped in, shaved, rain-coated, booted, belted, spurred, et al.

"Well, boys," he called cheerily, "are you all well and comfortable?"

"Well, hell!" ejaculated Sergeant Bennett. "I'll tell you, loot, if a guy don't get pneumonia here there's something the matter with his lungs."

A Martyr to Science

"That appears to be a sad case," observed the visitor.

"Very," agreed the insane asylum guide. "The poor fellow spent years trying to find out what really would happen if an irresistible force hit an immovable body."

The Real Thing

A benevolent old gentleman was taking a stroll through the park one day when he encountered a couple of ragged youngsters.

"Mister," the elder accosted him, "my brother does some fine imitations. Give him a dime and he'll imitate a chicken for you."

"What will he do?" asked the old gentleman, with a smile. "Will he cackle?"

"Cackle nothing!" retorted the urchin indignantly. "He doesn't do any cheap imitations like that. Give him a dime, mister, and he will eat a worm."

Indubitably

Julian is a literal-minded little chap, as was evidenced not long ago when he met with a slight accident. He had fallen from a ladder and when his mother ran to pick him up, she cried:

"Oh, my dear, how did you fall?"

Whereupon Julian, who is a second-grade pupil, replied:

"Vertically."

Believe It or Not

A big game hunter had just returned from the hills and was recounting some of his adventures.

"The most astonishing experience I had," he said, "was when I fired my last bullet at a bear and missed him."

"Did the bear give you a chase?" asked one of the listeners.

"No. You see he knew me by reputation and was so surprised at my missing him that he fainted dead away."

Reason Enough

"Say Pop, why are all the drug stores on corners?"

"So they will be handy for auto collisions, my son."

'Twas Ever Thus

"Any fool can look wise," remarked the professor.

"Yes, and any wise man can look foolish where a woman is concerned," answered the cynic.

Where Are They?

In wandering through the cemetery lot And reading on the marble tombstones what

Their friends have said When they are dead, You're sure that none can be where it is hot.

Inference

Mrs. Huyler: "My husband has increased my allowance."

Mrs. Cuyler: "What did you catch him doing?"

A Perfect Make-up

While Farmer Seedplant was chopping wood the other day he injured his foot so badly that he was forced to limp around with a cane. A young man saw him making his painful way up the village street and jokingly asked him:

"What's the matter with your sore foot, Pop?"

"Nothin', durn you, nothin'," snarled the old man. "I jest robbed a bank up there a ways and I'm usin' this disguise as a means of escape."

The Five-Fold Bill

(Continued from page 12)

flow of Republicans. Senator New must have been speaking by the board, for, as if at the press of a button, the dark, youthful and slightly stoop-shouldered man who now stands in the shoes of the late Philander C. Knox arose and announced from a few small slips of paper that although "the passage of the bill is favored by a majority of the ex-service men of the country," although "they served their country well and at very meager pay, while the railroad men, the munition workers and the shipyard workers of the country, who should have been drafted instead of being wheedled, were getting a pay increase almost every time they asked it," he was nevertheless going to vote against the bill, because "the plain fact is that the country cannot afford to grant this request."

There were a few more lines of the Senate's debate that day which the ex-service men of the country will not want to miss. Senator Bursum, of New Mexico, was speaking on his amendment to refund the veteran his premiums on his war risk insurance instead of giving him the kind of adjusted compensation provided in the Fordney-McCumber bill.

Senator Wadsworth: "I am not sure that I heard the Senator correctly. Did the Senator deduct from the pay of the soldier a charge for laundry?"

Senator Bursum: "Yes."

Senator Wadsworth: "Is not the Senator aware that the soldier's laundry was done by the Government during the war?"

The first definite step in the direction of a final vote came on Saturday, the fourth day of the debate, when the Senate by unanimous consent agreement decided that after six o'clock the following Monday evening no Senator should speak more than once or longer than twenty minutes on any amendment. This was the day's signal but only contribution to the cause.

Fresh from Sunday's rest, with their desks piled high with telegrams and letters from Legion posts and members, the Senators resumed consideration of the bill Monday, August 28th, with a determination to finish the job. If it had not been for the McNary amendment proposing as a feature of the bill a vast reclamation project, the vote would have come that day.

The Senate, evidently not altogether satisfied with the bill as reported by the Finance Committee, took a hand in re-shaping it more to its heart's desire the next day, Tuesday. It adopted by a vote of 43 to 26 the McNary reclamation scheme as a part of the bill. Then came the most unexpected and most theatrical event of the discussion. At the suggestion of Senator Simmons of North Carolina, and after a flood of oratory from Senator Reed of Missouri, the Senate, or what there was left of it, by a rising vote of 33 to 1, adopted an amendment providing that interest collected on loans to foreign governments be devoted to the payment of adjusted compensation.

The effect of the adoption of these two amendments upon the final vote was at the time problematical. The opposition contended that they strengthened their position and ren-

(Continued on page 30)



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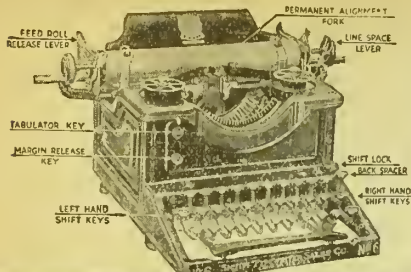
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THE VOICE OF THE LEGION

The Editors disclaim responsibility for statements made in this department. Because of space demands, letters are subject to abridgement.

When to Let 'Em Slide

To the Editor: I read with interest the letter of Comrade Frank L. Whitman on "Let 'Em Slide." I feel that the comrade is taking the wrong attitude in assuming that the average non-Legion man does not appreciate what The American Legion is doing for him. I believe that the case of a man not appreciating the Legion is an exception rather than the rule.

By taking this stand the comrade would probably assume that The American Legion is a Protestant organization because there are Protestant members; a Catholic organization because of its Catholic members; a union organization because some of the members belong to organized labor; a non-union organization because some of the members happen to be non-union men; a rich man's organization because of the richness of some of the members, or a poor man's organization inasmuch as some members have not been endowed heavily with this world's goods.

To state specifically my point: There is an ex-service man living in the immediate vicinity of my home (not a Legion member) who wanted vocational training and compensation. I obtained the necessary papers and affidavits for him, filled them out on the post typewriter, had a notary public seal placed on (free of charge) and even obtained a letter of introduction to a member of the Veterans Bureau.

This took place about two months ago, but this fellow has never taken the time or trouble to file his claim. The Veterans Bureau is about twenty minutes' ride from his home. Needless to say I do not intend to be of any service to this man in the future.

But that does not say that I will not help any other ex-service man that is entitled to back claims from the Government. There is another ex-service man that kept putting me off and off when I asked him to join the Legion. I had the opportunity about two weeks ago of placing a man in a very good job. I obtained the job for this man, but he as yet is not a member of the Legion. However, by doing this little favor I feel that I will obtain an active member for the post.

I personally at all times will take the initiative in starting a justified claim against the Government for an ex-service man. But if, after the initial stage, the man has not enough interest to co-operate in pushing his own claim, then is the time to "let 'em slide."—M. E. McMAHON, Finance Officer, Kensington Post, Philadelphia, Pa.

Another Gob Looks Back

To the Editor: A letter appearing in the August 18th issue written by Giles Leswood, an ex-gob, prompts this reply from me. To prevent the doughboys from gaining a wrong impression of the Navy on transport duty, I feel that it is in order to ask Mr. Leswood a few questions.

I wonder if he ever stood a four on, eight off steaming watch for eleven days, then, after the anchor dropped, turned to on the main engines on a four on, four off shift for forty-eight hours, then weighed anchor and went back on the four on, eight off shift for eleven days back to the States? Did he ever lay ensconced on the floor plates trying to clear a plugged-up bilge line? Did he ever stand in front of a three five boiler trying to make a thirteen-knot ship do fifteen knots with most of the boiler tubes plugged? Did he ever have the twelve-four watch for a week at a time, attend morning quarters, wash clothes, stand locker inspection, and then get to sleep just in time to turn out for fire drill and still find time to gaze at the moon from a life raft? The writer used

to get a glimpse of the moon shining through one of the two ports in the bunk room providing the water wasn't too rough to have them open. Oh, boy, those were the happy days, but I wouldn't have missed them for the world. Mr. Leswood sure had the gravy, but then someone had to do the work.

Shall we ship over, gobs? Let's not—and say we did.—L. L. PESSINK, formerly eng, 2c., Chicago, Ill.

Keep Up the Fight

To the Editor: This hospital, U. S. Vets Bureau 86, is first class in every way. Every consideration is being shown the patients by those in authority so that it is truly a delightful place. Just continue your agitation against contract hospitals until every n.p. patient is in a place similar to this, and the Legion will have done much in a noble and worthy cause.—ELLERT L. MCGRATH, 2nd Lt., C.A.R.C., U.S.V.B. Hosp. 86, Fort McKenzie, Sheridan, Wyo.

Homesick

To the Editor: After reading over Mr. Sprague's letter to General Sawyer, I heartily agree, especially where Mr. Sprague says of the General that before his entry into office he never had any contact with men or women in the service. At the time the General said there were 9,600 beds I happened to be looking for a bed and I was sent about 1,200 miles from home, where I still am and believe I'll be forever. When he says a man has as much chance of getting well when he is 1,200 miles from home he just doesn't know what home means to a man that has gone through four and a half years of army life and then, after returning home for two months, is sent 1,200 miles away to receive hospital treatment. I am now fighting my case in an effort to be sent home and allowed to take my training in my own home town. I hope that some day the Government may find out its mistake instead of trying to delay the disabled man by holding out.—Member of George A. Simmons Post, Alexandria, La.

Life Membership

To the Editor: It is surprising to me that there has been so little discussion of life membership among Legion members, because it is hard to think of any argument against the proposal. I think the reason for this lack of discussion is that everyone takes it for granted that a life-membership plan of some sort will soon be put into effect, perhaps at New Orleans. When everyone agrees with an idea and is sure it is going into effect it is hard to start a discussion of it. Still I think the plan should be thought out carefully before definite action is taken. As I said, I cannot think of a single objection to it. Perhaps others have other views. I should like to hear from the other side—if there is one.—C. J. K., New Bedford, Mass.

Ladies in Line

To the Editor: I attended the Legion National Conventions at Cleveland and Kansas City. At Kansas City twenty-five members of our post were in line in the big parade. How about a division in the New Orleans parade for women's posts, headed by a band? The State with the largest delegation of women should head the division. 'Tis true, the nurses need the Legion, but the Legion also needs the nurses. Let's plan something for them and make them feel they belong.—M. L. W., Katherine May Joyce Post, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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Conventions

Department of Oregon

ALIENS: Requested legislation by Congress to deport all aliens who do not become citizens within six years of arrival; to examine emigrants for entry into country by a board or bureau with power to regulate number to enter, the number not to exceed entries under present laws; to educate immigrants in citizenship and to prevent the congregation of aliens in colonies in large cities.

Favored a state law to regulate the employment of aliens in positions which would be accepted by citizens.

AMERICANIZATION: Recommended the co-operation of all veteran organizations and their auxiliaries to co-ordinate Americanization work. Recommended that each post see that the national colors receive due honors.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY: Urged better co-operation with Auxiliary by posts.

AMERICAN LEGION SUNDAY: Designated the first Sunday in April of each year as American Legion Sunday.

BONDING OF POST OFFICERS: Recommended that post adjutants and finance officers be bonded for not less than \$250 for adjutants and \$500 for finance officers.

COUNTY COUNCILS: The organization of a county council in each county of the state was voted as compulsory.

FINANCES: Set department dues for 1923 at one dollar. Delegates to the national convention are required to pay their own expenses, except three, one for each congressional district.

HOSPITALIZATION: Requested the removal of Brigadier-General Charles E. Sawyer from his position as co-ordinator of the Federal Board of Hospitalization. Memorialized the Veterans Bureau to purchase the Hahnemann Hospital in Portland, Oregon, now under temporary lease and on which has been expended approximately \$140,000 for completion and equipment, and to make it a permanent government institution. Urged the Veterans Bureau to request the use of Fort Stevens, Oregon, as a training center for neuro-psychiatrics. Urged the Director of the Veterans Bureau to consider the plan of administering hospitals through the district offices of the bureau.

LAND SETTLEMENT: Memorialized the Secretary of the Interior to open as soon as possible for settlement by veterans 1,100 acres of government land at Upper Klamath Lake. Endorsed Columbia Basin Irrigation Project.

PREFERENCE IN PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT: Favored enactment of a law by Congress and all states compelling every city, county, State or government body contractor to employ only citizens of the United States on all public works.

PUBLICITY: Recommended continuance of department news service.

SERVICE: Recommended that each post appoint a service officer to study all problems relating to compensation, hospitalization and vocational training of the disabled and to keep in close touch with department service officer.

STATE COMPENSATION: Memorialized the Oregon state legislature to extend the benefits of the Oregon adjusted compensation legislation to those ex-service men of allied armies who can qualify under Oregon residential requirements.

SUFFRAGE: Requested repeal of that article in state constitution which provides that no sailor, seaman or Marine in the U. S. Army or Navy, or of their allies shall be deemed to have acquired a residence in the state in consequence of having been stationed within the same, and that no such soldier, seaman or Marine shall have the right to vote.

VETERANS BUREAU: Recommended that the practice of employing officers of the War Department and the military forces in the Chief Medical Division of the Veterans Bureau be discontinued, and that the personnel of this division be chosen from among ex-service civilian experts of recog-



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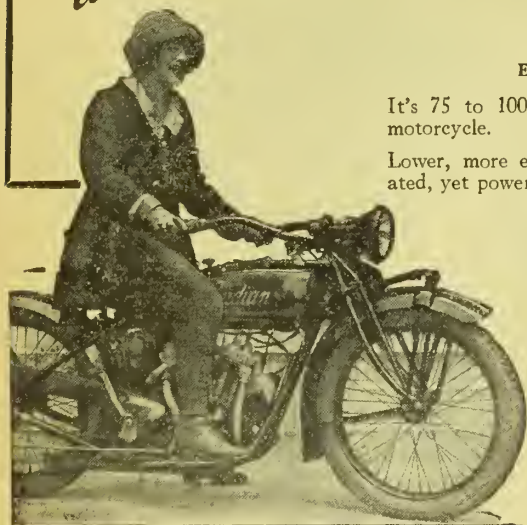
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nized medical ability; further, that in the employment of the personnel to take care of the work of that bureau, preference be given to rehabilitated trainees possessing the necessary qualifications; further, that the salaries of the tuberculosis and neuropsychiatric specialists be adjusted and augmented so as to attract competent specialists to the Veterans Bureau and that such specialists be assured of a reasonable permanency, provided their services are satisfactory.

Department of South Dakota

AMERICANISM: Endorsed program of National Americanism Commission and pledged support to the National Essay Contest. Urged posts to greater activities in Americanism.

ATHLETICS: Urged Legion encouragement of athletics in every form, especially in organizations of young men, such as Boy Scouts, high schools and colleges.

CIVIL SERVICE: Favored National civil service preference for veterans. Recommended appointment of ex-service men to positions in the Veterans Bureau.

COMPENSATION: Recommended that in cases where applications for compensation are filed, the Veterans Bureau aid applicants in securing information pertaining to claims instead of placing the entire burden of proof upon the applicants.

FEDERAL COMPENSATION: Again endorsed the Federal Adjusted Compensation Bill and so notified the State's representatives in the United States Senate.

HOSPITALIZATION: Deplored method used in selection of government hospitals without preliminary surveys. Urged the removal of Doctor Sawyer as co-ordinator of the Federal Board of Hospitalization. Recommended the use of local hospitals by the Veterans Bureau with authority vested in Sub-District Manager to hospitalize patients for indefinite periods, and that hospitalization cover general medical, surgical, eye, ear, nose and throat cases. Endorsed the plan of caring for tuberculous patients within the District and the establishment of hospitals for such purpose.

IMMIGRATION: Pledged support to proper immigration restriction laws.

LEGISLATION: Endorsed the efforts of the National Legislative Committee to secure changes in the Sweet Bill.

NATIONAL CONVENTION R. R. RATE: Urged granting of a one-cent-a-mile rate to New Orleans.

WAR CRIMINALS: Condemned the release of Eugene V. Debs from federal prison.

PUBLICITY: Disapproved the establishment of a department publication. The question of using the radio for broadcasting news from department headquarters to posts was set over for another year.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING: Recommended that a thorough study of vocational training problems be made by the District Rehabilitation Committee.

VOTE OF THANKS: Instructed Department delegates to the National Convention to have the convention thank the American Red Cross for the financial aid rendered in maintaining Legion Liaison Representatives in Veterans Bureau districts.

WEEKLY: Favored increase in the size of The American Legion Weekly, recommending that it be a magazine of general interest and not strictly a house organ and that enough of the profits from the publication to make this improvement be so used.

Outfit Reunion and Notices

CONTRIBUTIONS for this column must be received three weeks in advance of the events with which they are concerned.

COMPANY F, 311TH INF., 78TH DIVISION—Second annual reunion at Syracuse, New York, September 22. Address R. S. Feeley, 402 Cherry st., Syracuse, N. Y.

316TH INF.—Third annual reunion at Atlantic City, New Jersey, September 23 and 24. Address William J. Keogh, 506 Land Title bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.



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N.O.—Let's Go

WHILE October first is the official national moving day, the hegira of the Legion probably will start around October 12th, when the farthest echelons will take to the road. It's the big move from Main Street—or main streets—to Canal Street, the principal promenade in New Orleans, where on October sixteenth all of Legiondom that can make the grade will assemble for a five days' visit crammed-full of entertainment and business.

Railroad rates is the question of paramount importance right now. We're not making any rash prophesies, but if the efforts of the Transportation Committee, the National Convention Committee, and national and department officials count for anything, the one-cent-a-mile rate which carried Legionnaires to Kansas City last year will again be granted. To avoid disappointment, however, it's best to salt away sufficient funds to meet the one-way-fare-for-the-round-trip rate, which the several railroad associations have offered thus far.

With the convention last year in a more-or-less inland city, the Legion style was sort of cramped in selecting modes of transportation. New Orleans is an ocean port and also a limited stop on the Mississippi. Hence water routes are being favored by conventionites living along the coast or inland, waterways. The *Steamboat*—not *S. S.*—*Majestic* is the first registered on the sailing list—her port of departure being Rock Island, Illinois, and her passenger list including Legionnaires, Legionnaires and Auxiliary members from both that State and Iowa.

Special trains bearing delegations and visitors will be *le dernier cri* in modern railroad equipment. The Grand Rapids, Michigan, contingent, for instance, is all set with a special train, including a baggage car to be rigged up with a full-stocked canteen, a through diner and plenty of Pullmans, tagged with a luxurious observation car.

"All out for setting-up exercises or a hike," will be in order with more than one party. Many of the travelers from the north will stop over at Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, the Gettysburg Battlefield, and other points of interest along their several routes. The Legionnaires in Vicksburg are showing real civic pride in their city—invitations to every post in the country to stop and visit the Vicksburg National Military Park, while en route to the convention city, have been broadcast.

The air routes won't be untraveled. Some of the "Powder River, Let 'er Buck" gang are flying from Montana. A fleet of Government planes is also scheduled to hit the air lanes from Florida.

Scorning both rail and waterway facilities, Indiana Legionnaires are assembling a flivver fleet which will start from the Hoosier State on October 10. At last reports twenty-six Henrys had been booked for the pilgrimage. Each car will carry a tent and cooking outfit, and to insure entertainment each night for the camp party, musically inclined tourists are requested to bring along their stringed instruments or bugles.



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THE outdoor life in the army and the daily shave inclined to make whiskers "hard-boiled," as well as a few of the old top-kickers. But a buck with new ideas could always get into the good graces of the First Soldier—you remember how the flourish of a nice looking parcel gathered the boys around and made them friendly.

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Lisbon, N. D., Starts Its Official Convention Special

Coming Across for the Kids

(Continued from page 15)

The post sacrificed its proposed clubhouse to build a recreation park that includes—beside the swimming pool—sliding chutes, swings, giant striders, spring boards and a sandy beach. The site was once a rundown, deserted park. The Legion gave the accumulated savings that were in the post treasury, money that had been made from baseball games—the post team in mid-season had won fourteen games and lost two—home talent plays, pavement dances and fairs.

"The clubhouse can wait," said the members, "but it's hard to make the kids wait for a swimming hole when we know that we have the money to build them one. This hot weather sure does make them ache for a place where they can peel off and jump into the water to cool off. As good citizens, we've got to think of them first and the clubhouse second."

The story of how the post built and equipped the playground in thirty days equals, relatively, the enterprise and achievements of the pioneers of Oklahoma in laying out and building cities like Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Muskogee. On June 27, at the regular meeting of the post, Commander McGregor proposed that the members delay erecting a clubhouse, and donate the money in the treasury to a needed community project, a recreational center for the children. He told of the value to a town in directing the play instinct of boys and girls, by giving them an opportunity for wholesome play in an attractive park with adequate facilities

and under the supervision of a professional. He moved that the post lease an abandoned park, within which a settler of last century had planted saplings now grown to trees. The old-timer had hoped that the day would come when Mangum would realize the need of an improved park for its people. Unfortunately this far-sighted pioneer, James A. Powers, for whom the park has been named jointly with that of the American Legion, died before realizing his dream. He had tried for twenty years to interest Mangum in a park, but he failed.

The motion of Dr. McGregor was hailed with enthusiasm and carried at the meeting. Next day, June 28 last, the post obtained an eight-year lease on the grounds and in forty-eight hours after the vote had passed, man, beast and machine were at work clearing and excavating on the ground. For the next few weeks farmers driving into town noticed that the vicinity looked as busy as a boom town near an oil strike, or an old-time land rush on a newly-opened Indian reservation. The enterprise and unselfishness of the post, incidentally, impressed the merchants who in one afternoon wrote out checks totalling \$1,000 to help the fund.

Within thirty days after the first spadeful of earth had been turned on the site, the James A. Powers-American Legion Park and Playground was formally dedicated in the presence of several thousand persons, and turned over to the children of Greer county for their use and enjoyment.

A Real Reward for Real Boys

(Continued from page 13)

a concrete example of the workings of the plan, it would have been possible to take any of the scores of other posts already doing the same thing.

Well, in the case of Delaney Post, there were four schools to be considered. The post awarded a medal to each. Two of these are public schools

and two are parochial schools. I went first to Kearny School (public, and the largest in the city, the janitor stated, with due impressiveness).

Now the janitor, as you can guess, is one of the most enthusiastic janitors in the world. But then, the principal of the school and thousands of pupils,

and dozens of teachers are enthusiastic, too. I wanted information about Myer Epstein, who won Delaney Post's medal for Kearny School. Everybody knew him. Principal Dudley knew him without consulting his card index. The janitor was able to talk about him with as much enthusiasm as about the school itself. And one of the boys, a classmate of Epstein's, offered to take me to the winner's home, hard by. All this enthusiasm, I decided on the way to Epstein's home, was not due merely to the size of the school; the medal award must have had something to do with it.

It is not surprising that this boy who won the medal at Kearny School is well known and well liked. He had to show something because there were 234 contestants for the award in his class. But this is surprising—he had been in this country only eleven months on the day he received the medal. When he arrived in America from Russia he had never been to school in his life and spoke scarcely a word of English. His only education was such as he had managed to get by puzzling over lesson books all by himself at home. Epstein is undoubtedly a comer, and at the age of sixteen he has the maturity which is taught only by hard experience. This summer he has been working in a doctor's office and he is planning to enter high school.

But there is no cut-and-dried type of boy you can always count upon to win the Legion medal. The four main points on which the winner is selected permit latitude in final results. James Michael Dolan, winner of the medal at St. Francis Xavier School, has an Irish smile that would melt an iceberg, and besides standing high in his studies he is a baseball player of no mean ability, as is implied by the fact that he was a member of the team which won the pennant in a city playgrounds' league last year.

The boy who won the medal at the other public school in Delaney Post's district—Kenneth Bucherle—hangs his hat at home for friendless children, not because he's friendless, but because his father is dead and his mother has been unable to earn bread for two. When I asked him for a picture he was proud to present me with a snapshot taken when the children at the home recently had an outing at a New Jersey seaside resort. He has all the earmarks of a live wire. Besides being scribe for Troop 64 of the Philadelphia Boy Scouts he played third base on the Grade 8-B baseball team and likes to play tennis. He plans to go to high school and college and to become a lawyer and eventually, I suppose, President.

Bernard F. Elbe, who won the medal at Cathedral Parochial School, had least to say of any of the four. But his gray eyes are sharp, and it is apparent that he is by no means the one of the lot who does the least thinking.

Lawrence E. Delaney Post has warmed up to all four of the boys, and right now there's talk of hanging on to them some way or other and perhaps organizing a junior American Legion unit with these boys as a nucleus. In up-state Pennsylvania several of the posts which have awarded the medal are talking of similar plans. Thomas Evans, chairman of the award committee for the Department of Pennsylvania, has become so enthused with the

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results which have been accomplished from this beginning, that he's trying to get his post, the Harry Ingersoll Post of Philadelphia, to open a community center or two and thereby still further continue the good work of fostering education, enlightenment and American ideals.

The medal awarded by the Pennsylvania Department is of bronze and was designed by the sculptor, R. Tate McKenzie. One side bears the American eagle and the seal of The American Legion, and on the other side a soldier and a sailor are pictured, back to back, defending the commerce and home life of the nation. The motto of the marines, "Semper Fidelis," and the four first words of The American Legion preamble, "For God and Country,"

A Tip on the Market

(Continued from page 9)

absent-minded. Many a day I've walked out of here with my napkin in my hand. Madame is far too kind to tell me of it; and besides, she knows that I'll bring it back next day and surreptitiously slip it on the table.

"I suppose the trouble is that I've always had everything I wanted. My father has more money than he and I can spend together, and there are no others of us. Consequently I've never troubled about anything—not even about following the conversation of the person I'm talking to. Or my own, either, for that matter."

I asked, cautiously, if that failing had anything to do with his habit of leaving a Napoleon franc for Clement.

"Had you observed that?" he asked. "Well, of course you had. No, that has nothing to do with my other bad qualities. That is only spite."

"Spite?"

"Well, it's my method of getting even. You see, I'm subjecting Clement to psychological torture. There's nothing so embarrassing to a man as to get caught passing worthless money, or depreciated money. You know how you feel when you find a lead quarter or a Canadian dime in your pocket and want to get rid of it. You have to throw it out, careless-like, and trust to luck that you won't get caught."

"If you do, you're in for the guiltiest feeling that ever assailed mortal man."

"Knowledge of that showed me how to punish Clement while I was seeming to be kind. I've been placing him under the continual discomfort of carrying Napoleon francs about in his pockets. You know these Frogs well enough to realize that they're going to get twenty sous' worth of value out of every franc, no matter whose picture is on it. And he has to go out every day and get rid of one of these worthless coins. Why, it must put him under a continual strain."

"But that doesn't explain," I interrupted, "what Clement has done to deserve this treatment. What are you getting even for?"

"I was coming to that," said Brady. "Several weeks ago, as I left here after dinner, I stopped at a shop across the street to buy a pipe. When I paid for it, the clerk refused to take one of the coins I offered. I asked why, and he told me it was a Napoleon franc, of a sort which had been withdrawn by the government a few days earlier.

form a border for this design. The medal is designed to be kept in the boy's home, and a small button which is a replica of it is given to be worn on the lapel of the coat.

The educational authorities of the State have given their endorsement to the plan from the start. Now that they have witnessed its trial they are more warmly in favor of it than ever. Newspapers in Pennsylvania have given the Legion medal award much favorable comment. Newspapers in other States, including one a thousand miles away, have given it editorial commendation. The Department of Pennsylvania thinks well enough of it so that, at this writing, it is planning to recommend it at New Orleans for adoption by the Legion as a whole.

"I reviewed the places I had been that day and discovered that the franc had been given me by Clement, here, along with other change for a note. I've never been a careful man with money, and I do not look at my change when it is given me. I suppose the lap of luxury that I sat in before this Army forcibly ejected me therefrom, rather spoiled my distrust of my fellow-man. I have always taken it for granted that no one would cheat me or impose upon me. If anyone did, he was the gainer, but I was not the loser. I rarely realized the imposition."

"Oh, yes, bum coins had been passed on me before. And I had always felt as guilty as the devil when I tried to palm them off on some one else, even unconsciously. But that is not the story."

"Next day I offered this franc among several other coins in payment of my bill here. It was refused by the cashier."

"But you gave it to me yourself," I told Clement.

"Monsieur has wrong," he said. "I have not seen a Napoleon franc since the first of October."

"I knew the man was lying. This restaurant was the only possible place I could have got the thing. I argued with Clement and with La Veuve. It was of no avail. I resolved never to visit the place again, and I departed without leaving a tip."

"Back in the barracks, I discussed the occurrence. Several other men had had similar experiences. A large number of rejected coins had been left stranded in American pockets."

"We matched for them."

"Before I went to sleep that night, I owned every Napoleon franc in the building. Their jingle made me avaricious. Next day I invaded other quarters and won more francs. We played 'Napoleon freeze-out.' As my supply of the coins was so much larger than that of any of my opponents, the matching contests always ended with myself the victor."

"I began taking payment of debts owed me by other soldiers in Napoleon francs, at the rate of two for one. I advertised on the bulletin boards. I was becoming a miser for the things. Look!"

He drew from his pocket a packet of letters and papers. Running hastily through them, he selected one and

spread it open before me. On it was written in ink:

NAPOLEON FRANCES MATCHED FOR
A Pleasant Way to Get Rid
of Worthless Coins.
Apply: Pvt. R. J. Brady,
Bldg. 17, Bunk 8.

"The ad had results," he resumed. "Before I finished cleaning out the city, I owned two hundred and eighteen single franc pieces and about fifty doubles. I found that even the most religious boys in the company, those who thought a poker player bound straight for hell, were willing to match for their Napoleon pieces. It meant losing so little, you see, that it was as harmless as Rook. Besides, it was an easy way to avoid passing them off on some unsuspecting soul.

"I didn't know what to do with the things after I'd accumulated them. Then I got the idea of working this fiendish revenge on Clement. The inspiration came after I found owning them was making a criminal of me.

"I had tried nonchalantly giving them to shopkeepers, but I found it couldn't be done by an American. Their mere possession was a source of misery and shame. I grew stealthy and underhanded, and an expert at dissembling. I must have acquired a hang-dog air. You should have seen how horrified I looked whenever a clerk returned one to me with the adjuration that it was *pas bon*.

"I tried to think of some enemy on whom I could wish my troubles. Then I remembered Clement! He who had started me on the downward path!

"I returned to this café next day. You know the rest of the story. The Emperor greets Clement after each meal. I don't know what happens then, but I'm sure I can see Clement growing more vicious and sinful in appearance. His character, if he has one, has been undermined. He appears to me a stronghold of corruption. You can see the lines of venality in his face."

With this conclusion, Brady ostentatiously placed a Napoleon franc beside his plate and rose from the table.

A few days later he was transferred to Bassens and I did not see him again. I have often wondered what he did with the remaining supply of Napoleon francs which he must have taken with him. That he had a quantity left was proved by a conversation I had, not long after, with Clement.

"Do you miss Monsieur Napoleon?" I asked the waiter.

"Oui, Monsieur, a great deal." He smiled and bowed.

"Tell me," I continued, "tell me, Clement: what did you do with the Napoleon francs which he left for you every day?"

"Ah," he sighed. "Unhappily, Monsieur, there is only one remaining. It is the one he gave me on the occasion of his last dinner here."

"Yes," I said, "but the others which he left from day to day? What did you do with them?"

Clement smiled broadly.

"It is certain Monsieur Napoleon will not return to Bordeaux?" he asked.

"Quite."

"Then I shall tell you, Monsieur. I trust Monsieur will not make it known to Monsieur Napoleon himself, hein? Well, I tell you: they were returned to Monsieur Napoleon each day with his change."

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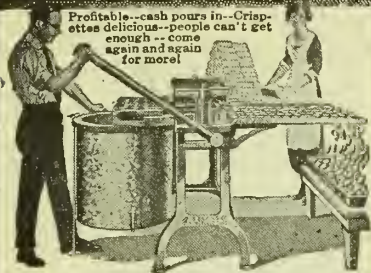
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Who Got the Money?

(Continued from page 8)

necessary for the production of Liberty motors. On the other hand they seemed to have the idea that they wanted the greatest automobile factory in the United States and used the Government contract for the purpose of securing the same. This is substantially the statement made to us by Mr. Leland.

The Government presently filed claims in the Detroit courts for \$9,188,000. Later the Attorney General took it out of the hands of the Detroit district attorney and had the case returned to Washington, where attorneys for the Lincoln company were to be given a rehearing on April 12th. When, Congressman Woodruff says, he heard whispers that the company's lawyers "had it all fixed up," on April 11th he made a speech before the House in which he declared he would move the impeachment of the Attorney General "if history repeats itself in the case of the Lincoln Motor Company." Next day the Lincoln Company's lawyers found the Government still determined to push its action.

No such vigorous action seems to have been taken in the case of the Wright-Martin Aircraft Corporation, which owes the Government \$5,267,476, according to Investigator Scaife, who says in an official report:

It was found that the minutes of this company at the time it was negotiating for a Government contract stated that an "eight percent profit was the proper profit to the company on Government contracts." The report of the Government audit states that the profits actually charged and collected amounted to 270 percent.

Among the items this firm collected from the Government Mr. Scaife cites accountants' fees totaling \$101,047 work "of no concern to the Government." Stranger yet appears a payment of \$14,864 "capital stock tax." The company paid its income tax, however, and a tidy sum it must have been in those fat war years. It was some job figuring up those profits; in fact, clerical hire alone amounts to \$922—and the Government paid this bill! Liberty Bonds or other public funds went to pay for \$995 worth of cigars and \$848 worth of "dinners" given by the hospitable representatives of the company. It took only the amount of a few War Savings Stamps, however, to take care of the item which is entitled, "box of La Corona cigars for Mr. G. H. Houston, \$3.25."

Notwithstanding the Government maintained corps of guards at the company's plant, the corporation created a secret service of its own, sparing no expense because Uncle Sam met the pay roll to the tune of \$91,925. At one time there were 195 men in this mysterious organization the principal function of which Mr. Scaife charges was "counter espionage against the Government." An example of the wages paid appears in the case of J. W. Wheatley, former Government secret service agent, drawing \$4,420 a year. The Wright-Martin people handed him a "retainer" of \$10,000 and a yearly salary of \$12,000, with a \$25,000 bonus for cancellation of his contract with the Treasury Department. Sleuth Wheatley compromised this last item for \$17,500, so his first year's work

netted him only \$39,500, notes Mr. Scaife.

The company's original contracts were on a fixed-price basis but were later changed to cost-plus, by which operation the profits were increased. The fees to the lawyers who arranged this detail for the company were paid by the Government, Mr. Scaife asserts. After the Armistice the company bought up for \$24,379 a quantity of semi-finished tools and work in process involving material which cost the Government \$792,865. A better bargain, however, appears in the sale of \$1,000,000 worth of special tools and patterns to the company for \$10,642. The company's arrangements in this deal were in the competent hands of G. H. Houston, who smokes La Corona cigars.

Mr. Scaife reports that the Wright-Martin case was brought to the attention of the Attorney General in October, 1921. The papers necessary for suit for recovery of money alleged to be due the United States were placed in the hands of the United States Attorney in New York. Mr. Scaife continues:

Through the activities of Mr. Charles Hayden, a director of the Wright-Martin Aircraft Corporation, the Secretary of War attempted to delay action in the case. Later, at the request of the Secretary of War, the case was withdrawn from the United States Attorney (at New York) . . . and no suit has been brought.

The presence of enemy aliens in factories turning out planes and equipment was a scandal in itself. Frequently these artisans rose to positions of responsibility, and the charge has been made that the German government, through its spies, sought to cripple our air production effort. Japanese capitalists openly participated in our manufacturing program, and in connection with some of their operations Investigator Scaife reports "the fraud on the Government is apparent at a glance."

The Standard Aircraft Corporation and the Standard Aero Company were owned by the great Mitsui & Company. The Mitsui family are called the Rothschilds of Japan. In the United States no single banking house exercises a domination which can be compared with the grip in which the Mitsuis hold the financial affairs of the Japanese empire. In addition to their vast private holdings Mitsui & Company are the fiscal agents of the Japanese government. They are the Mikado's paymasters throughout the world, and before the war they acted as paymasters for the great German international secret service.

Mr. Scaife says a government audit of the Standard transactions reveals the companies were overpaid \$6,500,000. None of this money has been recovered and Government officials charge that the prospect of collection is being rendered increasingly remote because the companies are in process of liquidation. In a letter to Capt. W. F. Volandt, chief of the Finance Contract Division of the Air Service, H. B. Mingle, president of the aircraft corporation, admits that the Mitsui interests received in one instance \$2,000,000, that

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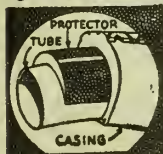
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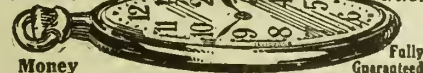


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the companies are going out of business, that they have no funds to enable them to "present" their books for audit by Government agents and that money for this purpose is not forthcoming from Mitsui & Company, who seem to have taken their \$2,000,000 and left these industrial orphans high and dry.

Notwithstanding the inability of the companies to assist in the audit, Government auditors were able to establish alleged overpayments of six and a half million dollars. Among the items cited is an alleged payment of \$370,000 for rent and later \$2,226,000 for depreciation on the same buildings. Either the companies owned these buildings or they did not own them. In the first case why the payment of rent? In the second case why the payment for depreciation?

Mr. Scaife's report to the Assistant Attorney General goes on to charge that in an effort to forestall collection of this money "Mitsui & Company are indirectly exercising powerful influence in this country which extends to Congress and the departments of the Government." Mr. Scaife states he established "by conclusive evidence" that an employee of the Department of Justice who was given supervision of war-fraud cases was placed "in this key position" through the influence of persons concerned with the protection of the Mitsui interests. "Since that time," Mr. Scaife concludes, "the investigation of the Air Service has been blocked."

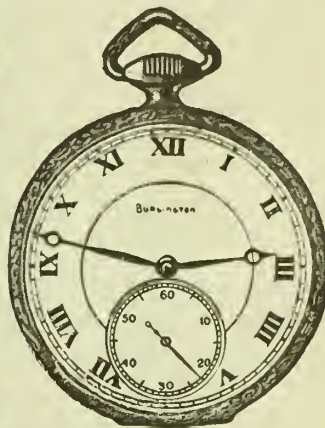
A few days after writing the foregoing—which appears in his report to Mr. Goff, dated March 18th last—Mr. Scaife says he became so convinced that influences of obstruction were rendering his labors futile that he resigned from the Department of Justice. Since leaving the Government service he says he received an offer to act as attorney for one of the interests whose transactions are under official scrutiny, which incident he characterized as "an insult and a bribe."

Since Mr. Scaife took this gloomy view of the situation there have been great changes. Following the disclosures by Congressman Woodruff of Michigan and Royal C. Johnson of South Dakota there has been a veritable outburst of activity by the Department of Justice, which asserts it has been influenced not in the least by anything the Congressmen have said.

That our aircraft production effort, which promised so much and produced virtually nothing toward the winning of the war, was a colossal failure none can seriously dispute. That it is the duty of the Department of Justice to prosecute with all vigor and fearlessness an investigation of the causes which underlie that failure none likewise will deny. The material presented here, which is drawn wholly from official records, is offered merely as an indication of the nature of a vast collection of evidence bearing on this great failure which is in the hands of the Department of Justice.

The individual cases here cited have been selected almost at random from among many which the Weekly found to be available. Space restrictions preclude discussion of numerous other cases, such as, for example, the attempt at the production of spruce lumber for planes which cost \$48,750,000, of which \$30,000,000 was "wasted," according to the findings of

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WRITE FOR A COMPLETE CATALOGUE
Emblem Division, National Headquarters
The American Legion, Indianapolis...

the cost accountants employed by the Graham committee. This enterprise was entrusted, not to one of the country's foremost loggers or lumbermen, but to Brice P. Disque, a retired Cavalry captain of absolutely no experience in the work at hand. Notwithstanding his costly record at spruce production Captain Disque (who ultimately became a brigadier general, though he complained he should have been made a major general) has fared very well. After the Armistice he became president, at a salary of \$30,000 a year, of one of the many companies controlled by the financial interests with which John D. Ryan is identified.

The Dayton-Wright Airplane Company got a bogey price of \$7,000 on DH-4 planes, or "flaming coffins," which cost \$4,400 to make. Incidentally government auditors figure the Dayton-Wright Company owes the Government \$2,057,261, and there is a story in that. Another story could be told of how the American Electro Products Company, a Canadian concern, touched Uncle Sam for \$1,750,000 to build a plant which should remain the property of the firm. And so on. In fact, this article touches only here and there on particulars of an aircraft effort which set out to win a war, which spent a billion dollars and put no fighting plane of its own making on the front.

The Five-Fold Bill

(Continued from page 19)

dered a veto by the President more likely than ever. Supporters of the bill, on the other hand, appeared confident that they had lost no votes by reason of the changes.

On the eighth and last day (August 31st) the Senate met at 11 o'clock while the galleries were rapidly filling with ex-service men. No further amendments to the bill were pending, and with determination written on the faces of Senate leaders not to let the sun go down on the bill unpassed, great impatience was shown to get a vote. Cries of "Vote! Vote!" came whenever a senator finished speaking.

Senator Lodge gave the debate a literary, even classical, flavor by quoting Kipling's "Tommy Atkins" and Shakespeare's "King Henry the Fifth"—the passage wherein the monarch gives promise of reward to his soldiers at Agincourt—in declaring his support of the bill. He was followed by Senators Reed, Pomerene, Sutherland, Heflin, and Trammell, all in favor of the bill, and Sterling and Watson of Georgia in opposition.

As soon as Senator Watson was done speaking there was a loud demand for a vote, and, no one rising for recognition, the clerk proceeded, at the order of Senator Cummins, who was in the chair, to read the title of the bill for the third time and call the roll. As the bells rang senators came pouring in from the cloak rooms. In the rear of the Senate chamber stood many members of the House of Representatives. Every answer was listened to with intense interest, as there were many rumors of last-minute conversions pro and con. It rapidly became evident, however, that nothing unexpected was to happen, and long before the clerk had announced it the bill's passage by a substantial majority was assured.

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The Circulation Bird
AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY
627 West 43rd Street
New York City

Just say on the card: "I want to take subscriptions for The American Legion Weekly and reap the rewards."

Buddy in the Barrel Steps Out

Some time ago Buddy in the Barrel got in "dutch" with the Emblem Division of the Legion at Indianapolis. Buddy in a talk in the pages of the Weekly spilled a sob story about the failure of jewelry advertisers to use our columns.

Buddy stated he was still using the stuff he garnered off some Jerry prisoners. When the Director of the Emblem Division saw this commotion he doped it out that another good guy had gone wrong.

He wired Buddy to hasten west and look over the greatest bunch of souvenirs gathered in one place since Noah pushed off. The Hoghead Hero got off the "40-8" at Indianapolis and bumped into a streak of luck that made the days of '49 in California look like a Siberian famine.

The Coupon King struck gold at the Emblem Division. And each and every article has been advertised in our Weekly.

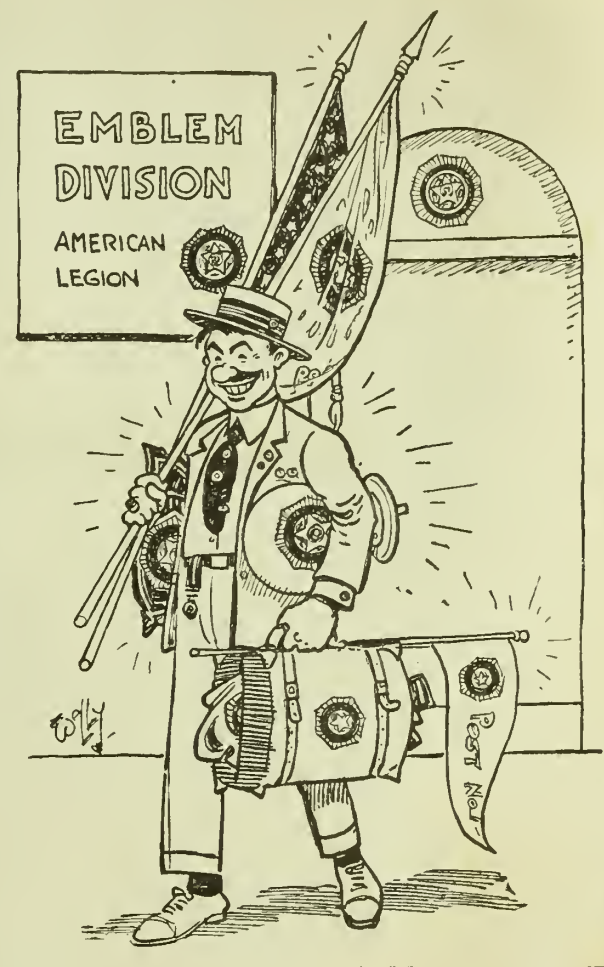
It's either a feast or a famine with the Stave Hero—and here was no famine. Buddy personally decorated himself with jewelry he rated; he found flags and colors for post headquarters, got himself some articles to jazz up the old gas boat, bought pennants and pillow cases for the club rooms, packed up a surprise package for the gang in his leather case in the form of emblem lamp stands, gathered unto himself a seal press, and post record sheets, and sallied forth for the home waters all dolled out like a five and ten counter.

"I'm a Legionnaire and want people to make no mistakes about it," says the Coupon Skirmisher. "The badge shows I was a pinch hitter for Uncle Sam with two down and the enemy far in the lead—guns loaded instead of bases.

"My batting average with the old gat will stand at least until the next war and if I don't tell the world about the stuff I did, the world won't be told—that's all."

The Emblem Division is the service man's canteen. Last year they did a total business of \$340,000—and this year the goal has been fixed at half a million. It's your own headquarters for all goods carrying the Legion emblem. Take advantage of it—and if what you want isn't there chirp up and it will be ordered.

Here's a "canteen" without a line—sing out your order from where you are and the goods will be delivered to you on the d.t. Wear your button, Buddy, and have one for every lapel.



Buddy in the Barrel,
The American Legion Weekly, 627 W. 43d St., New York
Dear Buddy: Tell me more about the goods carried by the Emblem Division. I am particularly interested in

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"BE IT RESOLVED, that with a firm belief in the value of our magazine—THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY—as a national advertising medium; with the realization that due to limited subscription price and constantly increasing cost of production, the improvements which we desire to see in it will only be made possible through increased advertising revenue—and that increased advertising revenue depends primarily upon our support of advertisers in the WEEKLY—we hereby pledge our support and our patronage, as individuals, and as an organization, to those advertisers who use the columns of our official magazine—THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY."

Resolution passed unanimously at the Second National Convention of The American Legion.

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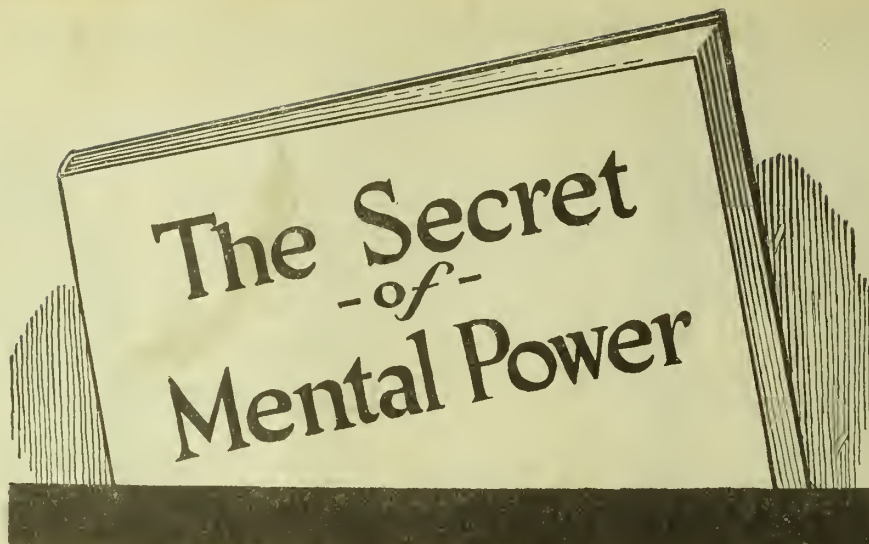
V SERVICE STRIPE—AWARDED ADVERTISERS WITH US REGULARLY FOR OVER SIX MONTHS. VV THE TWO, VVV THREE AND VVVV FOUR STRIPES ARE GROWING IN NUMBER, AND THE VVVVV FIVE STRIPES ARE BEGINNING TO APPEAR.

We do not knowingly accept false or fraudulent advertising, or any advertising of an objectionable nature. See "Our Platform," Issue of February 6, 1920. Readers are requested to report promptly any failure on the part of an advertiser to make good any representation contained in an advertisement in THE AMERICAN LEGION WEEKLY.
Advertising rates: \$3.00 per agate line. Smallest copy accepted, 14 lines (1 inch). THE ADVERTISING MANAGER, 627 West 43d Street, N. Y. City.

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A practical system of constructive thinking that brings business and personal achievement.



"Why do so many men never amount to anything? Because they don't think."
—Edison.

MARK TWAIN once said that the average man didn't make much use of his head except for the purpose of keeping his necktie from slipping off.

And Prof. William James claimed that the average man uses only about a *tenth* part of his brain.

And Thomas Edison states emphatically that most men never amount to much because they don't *think*.

How about you? Are you using *your* head simply as a scarf-retainer? Are you using only 10% of *your* brain? Are you sitting, discouraged and discontented, at the foot of the ladder simply because you don't *think*?

It will pay you to find out.

Mind is the measure of every man. *Mental power*—not *physical power*—wins business battles and builds bank accounts.

The man with *brains* to sell fixes his own price, but the man who brings only *brawn* to market must be satisfied with the lowest wage that brute force brings.

In every age, in every clime and in every field of human endeavor the *trained thinker* wins where the *thoughtless toiler* fails.

Twain, James, Edison, Roosevelt, Rockefeller, Schwab, Carnegie, Woolworth, Wanamaker, Morgan, Hill, Harriman, Ford, Marconi, the Wright brothers and all other successful men reached their goals not because they knew how to use their *muscles* but because they knew how to use their *minds*. Does anybody doubt this? Isn't it admitted by all? Doesn't every one with "brains enough to grease a gimlet" *know* that it's true?

Only One Road to Success

Yes, indeed, there is only *one* road that leads to success and that is the *mental* road. If you expect to accomplish anything worth while by any other method than the *development* and *use* of your mental faculties, you are simply deceiving yourself. And the biggest fool in the world is the man who fools himself.

A recent magazine article states that intelligence tests in this country disclose the deplorable fact that 83% of the people are morons. You won't find the word "moron" in many dictionaries. It means a person with the mental development of a normal fourteen-year-old child.

Is it any wonder why so few people achieve any considerable success in life, when such an enormous percentage of them are so lacking in mental power? Such people have no more chance in competition with trained minds than a midget has to lick Jack Dempsey.

And isn't it simply absurd, when you stop to think about it, that most people are striving for success and yet they are doing absolutely nothing to strengthen and develop their *minds*, which is the *only* part of them with which they can ever hope to win success.

The principal reason that the *trained thinker* gets ahead is because he has so little competition.

The *unthinking toiler* works hard for small pay because almost anyone can do his work.

What are you doing—as the days go by—to develop *your* mind? Are you more efficient mentally than you were a month ago—or a

year ago? If not, you are standing still. You haven't even started on the road that leads to *bigger and better living*.

Missing Success By a Hair's Breadth

The difference between *success* and *failure* is often but the breadth of a hair.

The man who is making *twice* as much as you are has nowhere near *twice* the intellectual ability. The man who enjoys an income of \$10,000 a year is not *five* times the mental superior of the man who receives only \$2,000.

Get this FREE BOOK

if you are interested in learning

- How to think like an arrow.
- How to compel attention.
- How to master important problems.
- How to overcome fear and worry.
- How to "tune up" your mental motor.
- How to develop new methods.
- How to originate new ideas.
- How to learn quickly and easily.
- How to attract valuable friends.
- How to have more time for play.
- How to out-think the average man.
- How to make your mind a mental mazda.
- How to stop thinking in circles.

Thousands upon thousands of earnest, aspiring men are *almost* successful. But in this connection a miss is as *bad* as a mile.

With just a little more *mental* force—with a slightly better trained *mind*—with a little clearer knowledge of *right* thinking—hundreds of men who are now struggling along in the Poor-Pay Army—foot sore and weary—would immediately find themselves equipped to command from *two* to *ten* times their present incomes.

Probably the man who makes \$1,000 a month is only 10% to 20% better trained mentally than the man who is trying to make both ends meet on \$100 a month. This is a *fact*. And it should be a most *encouraging* fact to every man who wants to be *somebody* and *get somewhere*.

The greatest thinkers the world has ever known have hardly more than scratched the surface of their latent mental powers.

Improve your mental power only 10% and you will *multiply* your earning capacity.

Get This New Book

We have just published a new book—*The Secret of Mental Power*. We will gladly send you a copy upon request, with our compliments and good wishes. And we want to state—as forcefully as we know how—that you will find it one of the most interesting and mind-spurring books you ever read.

If you had to quit work for a month in order to get and read this book, it would probably be one of the most profitable months you ever spent. But you don't have to do that. It takes but an *instant* to sign the coupon. You get the book for *nothing*. And you can read it in *twenty minutes*, as it is a small book of 32 pages and 16 illustrations.

Send for a copy of this book today. It tells about the most practical, common-sense system of constructive thinking—the easiest and quickest method of mind-building ever discovered—the secret of developing mental power in a way that is as fascinating as a game.

This book shows you the difference between *disconnected, irrational, faulty* thinking and *co-ordinated, normal, true* thinking.

It shows how you can tell by a man's appearance whether he is a *true* thinker or a *faulty* thinker.

It shows how a *wrong* thought produces a *wrong* action that brings a *wrong* result. And how a *right* thought brings a *right* action that can bring only a *right* result.

It shows the immediate and favorable result of *vital, constructive* thinking and the disastrous results of *flabby, impotent, haphazard* thinking.

In other words it gives you the solution of correct thought processes, which is the *only* secret of mental power.

Now Is the Time

Send for *The Secret of Mental Power* now. Do not delay. Do not put it off. Tomorrow you may forget all about it. And the loss will be yours, not ours. For although we have printed an edition of 20,000 copies, we do not expect to have a single one left at the end of thirty days. They are going—and going *fast*. Therefore act at once, for as Sophocles so truly said, "Heaven never helps the man who will not act."

Don't let the fact that you can get this book easily and at no cost deter you from sending for it or cause you to make the fatal mistake of undervaluing it.

There is, of course, no way of judging in advance how immensely valuable this little book may be to you. But by waking you up mentally—by showing you how to think straight—by showing you an interesting way to build mind power—it will convincingly prove to you that it is one of the most valuable messages that ever reached your mind, and that in taking advantage of this free offer you took a wise and positive step toward greater *mental* power, which is the *only* power that brings success.

Mail the coupon now. Or, send a postal if you prefer.

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Gentlemen:—Please mail me at once—without expense or obligation of any kind—a copy of your free book, *The Secret of Mental Power*.

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..... American Legion 9-15-22
"Thinkers act while sluggards sleep."